

Issue #30

\$2.95

HEAVEN'S METAL



NOVELLA

Also:
Seraiah
Whitecross
Vengeance Rising
1990 Readers Poll Results

CORNERSTONE'91

JULY 4 - 7 '91

breaking NEW GROUND

NOW IN BUSHNELL, ILLINOIS

CORNERSTONE FARM

A 575-acre campground with shaded camping and picnic areas, a 125-acre recreational lake, and trails for hiking and mountain biking.

FEATURING:

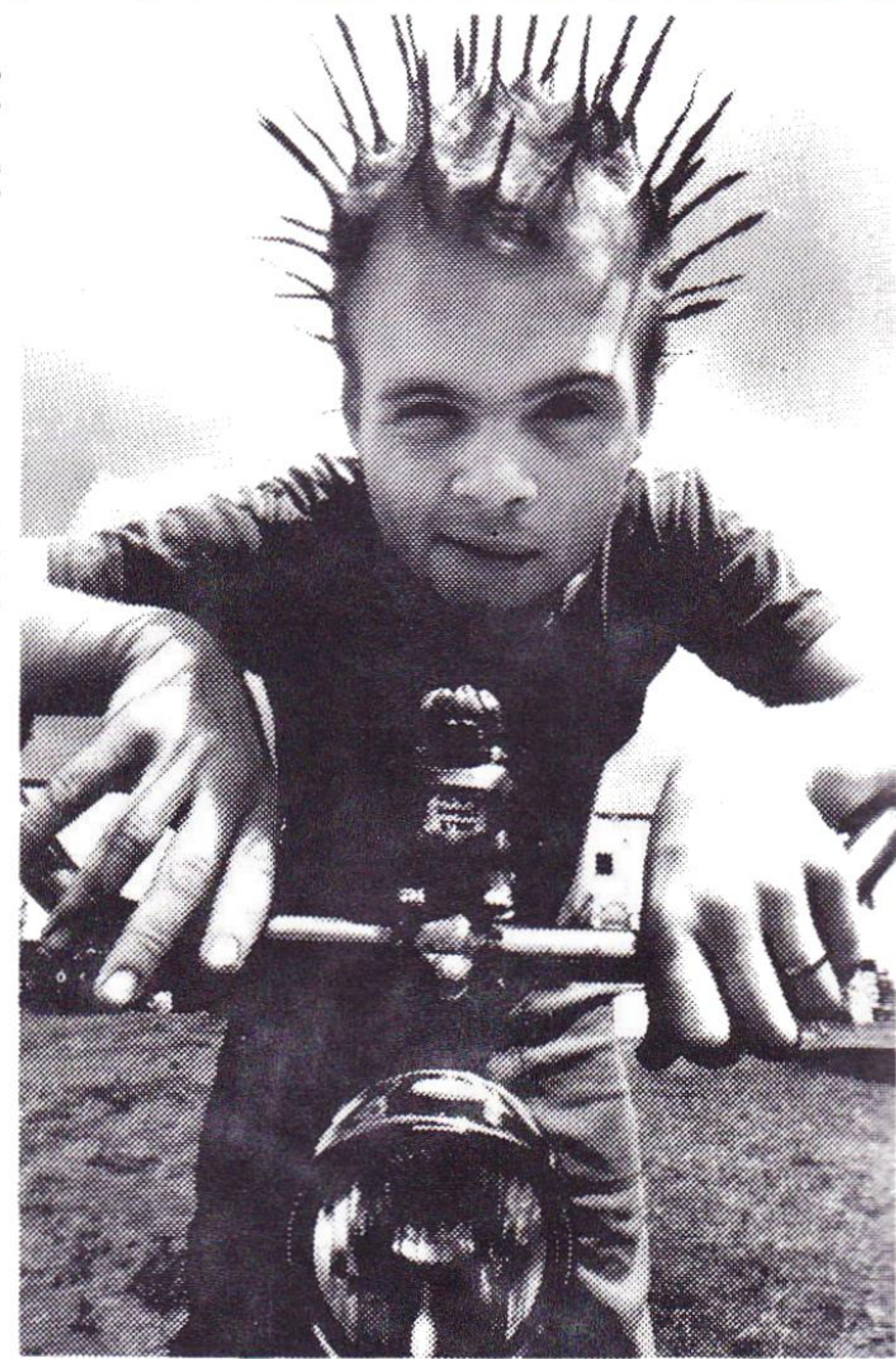
REZ,
MASTEDON with
JOHN & DINO ELEFANTE,
THE CHOIR,
ONE BAD PIG,
WHITECROSS,
BELIEVER, CRASHDOG,
BLOODGOOD,
ADAM AGAIN,
SCATERD-FEW,
THE CRUCIFIED,
JET CIRCUS,
THE THROES,
THE VIOLET BURNING,
RICK ELIAS,
CRYSTAVOX,
CHARLIE PEACOCK,
DAVID MULLEN,
DONNA McELROY,
CAUSE IN EFFECT,



im bo
the sheep

WHITE HEART,
LARRY HOWARD,
DARRELL MANSFIELD,
EDIN-ADAH,
JACOB'S TROUBLE,

GUARDIAN,
DEREK LIND,
JEFF JOHNSON,
THE CROSSING,
AND MORE TO COME!!!



TICKETS

	BY FEB 28	BY MAR 31	BY APR 30	AT GATE
ADULT (13 & UP)	\$40	\$43	\$48	\$55
ADULT GROUP (10 OR MORE)	\$37	\$40	\$45	\$52
YOUTH (AGE 6 TO 12)	\$9	\$10	\$11	\$15
CHILD (5 & UNDER)	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
FAMILY SPECIAL (2 PARENTS & ALL THEIR CHILDREN 12 & UNDER)	\$82	\$88	\$98	\$115

For more info call:
(312) 989-2087
or write:
Cornerstone '91
939 W. Wilson
Chicago, IL 60640

HEAVEN'S METAL

Issue Number 30
June/July

Editor: Doug Van Pelt

Contributing Editors: David Bach,
Bob Beeman, Jeff Scheetz

Contributing Writers: Marc Car-
penter, Rex Carroll, Chris Elrod, Joey Knight,
Spiny Norman, Steve Schmutzer, Steven
Wagers, Steven White, I.B. Willis, John Wilson
Cartoon: Mike Nair

Heaven's Metal address:
PO Box 17367
Austin, Texas 78760-7367 USA

Street address (for shipping parcels, etc.):
5055 Ft. Clark
Austin, Texas 78745
fax #: (512) 326-2401

Postmaster: Address Correction Requested.
Please send all corrections to: PO Box 17367,
Austin TX 78760-7367.

Member Gospel Music Association

Heaven's Metal is a bi-monthly
magazine that comes out every two months.
That's six times per year and 60 times per
decade. Jesus is Lord, God, Savior, Advocate,
Intercessor, Judge, Word Become Flesh, and
Friend.

Special thanks this issue to: Russell
Smith; Todd Web Press; Texas Bindary; Travis
Printing; Grassroots; the CCM Staff; Carolyn
Vandiver; Lauren Holmans; Joey Knight; and
the Desert Storm forces.

There are a few Back Issues of HM
available. They are: #18 (Illinois Noize--only
12 left); #19 (Shout); #20 (Sacred Warrior);
#21 (the rare Rage Of Angels issue--only 15
left); #22 (Bloodgood); #23 (Vengeance);
#24 (Holy Soldier); #25 (Whitecross); #26
(Magdallan); #27 (Deliverance); #28
(Believer); and #29 (Jet Circus). Each copy is
\$2.95 (Foreign orders add \$3 Air Mail post-
age).

Heaven's Metal T-Shirts are avail-
able. They are a 2-sided "deluxe" model design
with six colors in the back and two in the front.
100% cotton white shirts. \$15 (plus \$1
postage). The original one-sided "econo"
models are only available in black 50/50 shirts.
\$10 each (postage included). All t-shirts are
available in M, L, & XL.

Heaven's Metal Buttons come in
red, blue, and yellow and are \$1 each (Plus 25
cents postage/Foreign orders \$1).

Each subscriber to Heaven's Metal
has two Prayer Partners. I take the names di-
rectly above and below yours on the master
subscription list, who have been designated to
pray for you and vice-versa. Write in if you'd
like their names and addresses.

If you'd be willing to make copies of
a Heaven's Metal flyer to post around your
town, dorm, etc, write in and I'll send you one.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO
HEAVEN'S METAL ARE \$12.

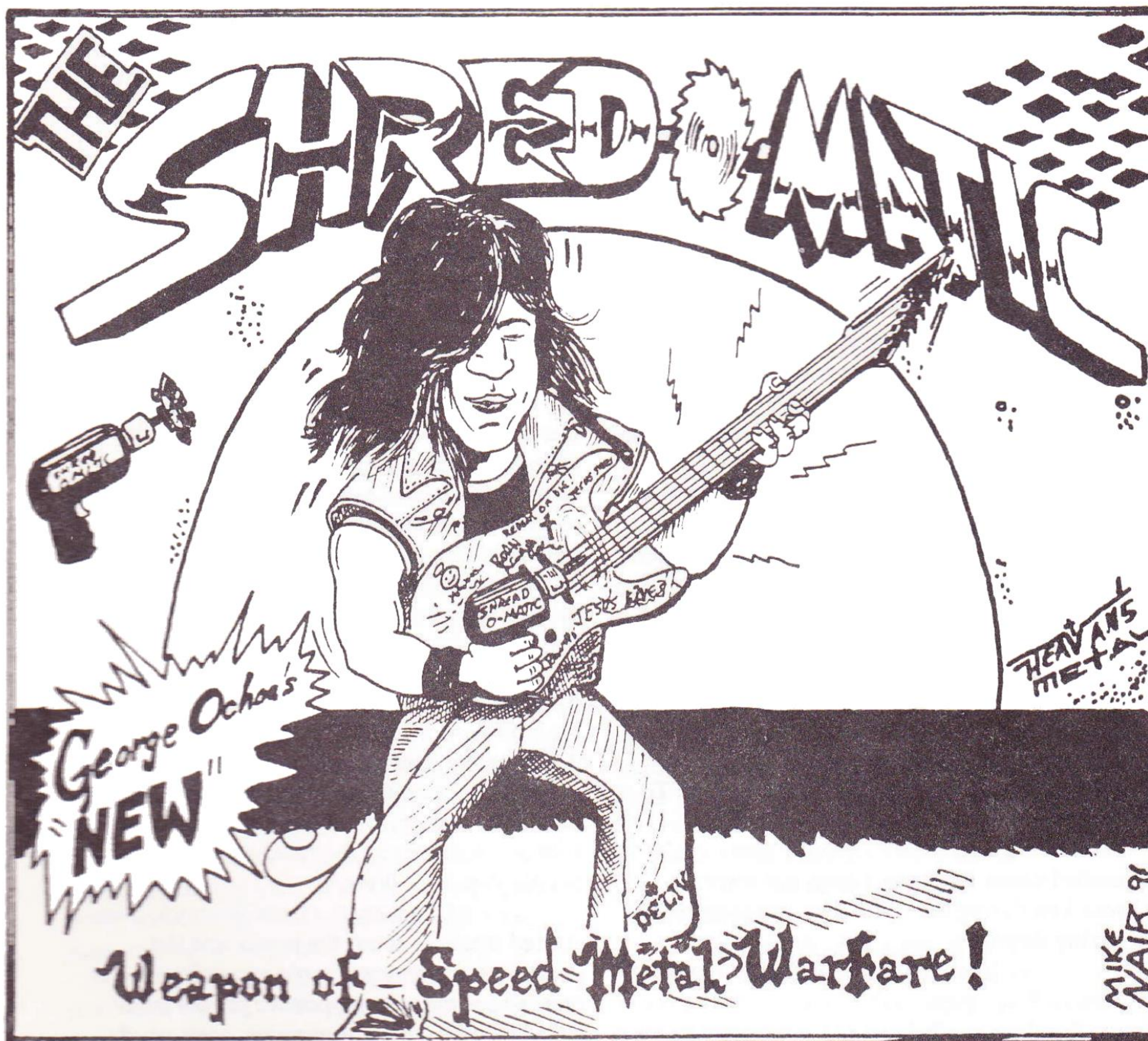
Canadian subscriptions are \$14.
Overseas subscriptions are \$22.

If You Move...please let me know at
least six weeks in advance! The post office
does not forward Third Class Bulk Rate Mail
(which is how Heaven's Metal is sent), so
please be sure and let us know at least six
weeks in advance...or you will lose the copies!

CONTENTS:

Pig 4
Novella 8
Seraiah 10
Whitecross 14
Vengeance 18
Queensryche 22
Touring Dates 24
Fourth Estate 26
Reader's Poll 32
Licks & Tricks 34
Inside/Out 34
Metal Tracks 36
Trading Post 39
Album Reviews 40
Concert Reviews 48
Radio & Sales Charts 50
Dudley Hall 52
Letters To Ed 53
Pastor Bob 54

All contents copyright (c) 1991 Heaven's Metal Magazine.
Contents may not be reproduced in any manner,
either whole or in part, without prior written
permission.



CHRISTIAN CONCERT HOTLINE

1-900-726-1213

WHO? WHERE? WHEN?

ALL YOUR FAVORITE
CHRISTIAN ARTISTS
COMPREHENSIVE LISTINGS
FOR EVERY STATE

ENTER THE AREA CODE OF YOUR CHOICE

★ Daily Updates ★ NO Credit Card Needed

★ Call NOW ★ ONLY \$1.95 per minute

Promote Your Concert For FREE

Submit Listings to:
THE CHRISTIAN

NETWORK

(a non-profit organization)
PO Box 4296, Helena, MT 59604
FAX (406) 442-6363

SMASHING, FLYING, SCREAMING PIGS

By Spiny Norman



One Bad Pig meets Johnny Cash

If you were an ice cream sundae, what flavor would you be? Would you have lots of nuts and whip cream on top? Would you be smothered with hot fudge? Or would you simply be a dish of vanilla ice cream?

When I was young, there was an ice cream parlor called Farrell's. They served what was called "The Pig's Trough," which, if you finished all of it, would be yours at no cost, plus a group of singers would come out with sirens and horns and make a public spectacle of you. Sound like fun? It sounds like One Bad Pig's personality to me.

Each member of this crazy band settled down to some righteous munchies as they answered questions about the new album, appropriately titled "I Scream Sunday," and their personal lives and lessons learned.

****You guys just finished recording a new album didn't you?**

"Yes, we did," answers guitarist Paul Q-Pek.

"Actually," says lead squealer Carey "Kosher" Womack, "Lee Groitzch (the engineer) was the guy that recorded it for us. We just played and sang and stuff like that."

"That's right," adds Q-Pek. "We didn't push a button. Well, we did a little bit. It was fun. We did our third album with Billy Smiley, who is with Whiteheart. He produced it. We did it up in Nashville, because that's where Billy lives, and he knows all the studios there. We had Carey singing his lungs out. Some of the best screams of all time are on this

record."

"And Paul played all his leads on this album," adds drummer Phillip Owens. "It's tons better than the last album (which featured guest appearances by Dann Huff and Phil Keaggy)."

"We were going to have some more lead guitarist, star surprise guys," interjects Womack, "and then we heard how Paul was playing this year and we said, 'Ahh, who needs those guys!'"

"Alright, give me a big head y'all," comments Q-Pek. "We're really happy with what turned out. It sounds great. The people we've played it for so far say that it blows away 'Swine Flew.'"

"There is a surprise guest on the album," adds new bassist Daniel Tucek.

"That is a whole story in itself," says Q-Pek.

"Well," begins Tucek, "Mark Maxwell, our A&R guy, had an idea for us to cover the song **Man In Black** by Johnny Cash. We thought it was a great idea, but Mark took it a step further and talked to Johnny's people and asked them what they might think of Johnny singing with the Pig on the album. To make a long story longer, they said, 'That sounds like a good idea. Johnny seems really excited about it.' So we finally got together with him during the third week, while we were mixing down."

"It looked like it might not happen," adds Q-Pek, "even down to the last day of recording, because Johnny had laryngitis and his mom was very sick. We had the track

completely recorded except for his vocals and, on the very last day of recording, it happened."

"We found out a lot of media got word of it," continues Tucek, "and that they were all gonna be there for Johnny to do his vocals. So, that morning before Johnny showed up, we all got together and prayed for the time that we were gonna have with Johnny, that the media wouldn't get in the way and that we would be able to have a real good personal time with him. Anyway, Johnny walked in just when we got done praying, and we all introduced ourselves and then he proceeded to tell us about his mom. She was on a 24-hour death watch. He said he had to get away for a little while and this recording was kind of like therapy for him. Anyway, we could tell that he was real emotional about talking about his mother, so we asked, 'Could we pray for you?' So we all gathered around him and laid hands on him and prayed for him and his family and just lifted him up to the Lord."

"It was real neat the way that broke down the barriers between, you know, big legend/singer meets weird, crazy punk band. All those barriers were knocked down. Believe it or not, not one single person from any of the media showed up, so we had a real good time with just Johnny and the band and the few people that were there."

"Of course," admits Womack, "we started thinking about the media and the people from a national cable network with a tv crew and some very supportive people from CCM all being there. I certainly envisioned, 'What an opportunity to make this bold witness

for the Lord. What an opportunity to be before literally millions of people and say, 'We're One Bad Pig, and this is what we believe in and this is Who we live for, and this is what we represent.' It seemed like such a good motive and it seemed so true and such a wonderful opportunity to be able to put that across to that many people.

"Well, as it turned out, Johnny Cash was a man who needed some time away, who needed a rest and a break that day. He was a man, a Christian man--as I got to know by reading a tremendous novel that he's written called Man In White, which Billy Graham called 'the greatest novel about the life of Paul that anyone's ever written.' I kinda got to know him a little bit just by reading his writing, so I'd come to realize that he's not just some celebrity guy who happens to call himself a Christian, but he's a real man of God. So, here he was on a day that he was very needy emotionally and spiritually, and he didn't need a show. He spends his life puttin' on shows, far bigger things than what we were envisioning, and he's done it on his own tv program and all these other things. He needed a break and the hand of the Lord on his life, and we all kind of agreed after it was over with that, 'Hey, this wasn't so much for what we could get across on tv or whatever. Maybe the Lord put it together this way so that He could minister to Johnny.'

"That was really driven home to me as I flew home that evening. I was reading in the Gospel of Mark on a plane, and Jesus was telling Peter, 'Hey Peter, get behind me Satan. You're not concerned about the things of God, but you're concerned about the things of man.' As I read, the Holy Spirit of God said exactly the same thing to me, 'You're not concerned about the things of God, but you're concerned with the things of man.' Because God was concerned that day with ministering to one individual, one man that He sent His Son to die for, that He cares about, that He loves just like any other person. It happened to be Johnny Cash. It could have been any one of us. He wasn't thinking about the tv exposure that He could get, and that's not where He wanted our hearts to be. His heart was on Johnny and what he needed that day."

"It was a good time," adds Q-Pek. "It's very special that he's on the album. His voice sounds great too. It's really cool to hear the difference between his very low, resounding voice and Carey's screams. It's just a wild contrast, and a real fun song. The message of the song is one of the things that we liked about it a lot. Johnny wrote it himself over 20 years ago. It's kind of a protest song. His wearing black is like a protest against the darkness of the world. Against sin. Against homelessness. It was written during the period of time that Vietnam was happenin' and lives being wasted over there and things like this. Still, even 20 years later, all the lyrics ring true. It's a real strong lyrical song, so we 'pigged' the music up a little bit and it turned out to be great."

"He was a lot of fun in the studio too," says Owens. "We were all in the control room looking in through the glass. The first thing he asked for was a cup of coffee, and we

were running around like, 'Get Johnny some coffee--quick!!' He gets in there and puts on his glasses and he's holding the lyric sheet and he's singing along. He sang about half the lyrics and then they were going to stop and listen to some of it. As we were listening he was kinda bobbing his head up and down, and we were all laughing, 'Hey, Johnny's rocking.' He looked through the glass and he stuck his tongue out and he goes, 'Aawwgghh!' and started wagging his tongue and then he starts going, 'Rock and roll!' and begins jumping around in there. We were all dying. It was really funny."

"Johnny had a good time," explains Q-Pek. "He was amazed at what we had done to his song, much like Bob Hartmann of Petra when we did Judas' Kiss. He was really open to what we did with the song. He was saying, 'Man, maybe this will bring my old song to a new generation,' which it will, so we're excited about that."

"God was
concerned that day
with ministering to
one individual, one
man that He sent His
Son to die for, that He
cares about, that He
loves just like any
other person... It
happened to be
Johnny Cash."

**I understand he has a son that's involved in music.

"John Carter Cash," affirms Q-Pek. "He had his 21st birthday while we were up there. They had a little birthday party for him at a club a few days before Johnny came in to do the studio thing. We were invited by his publicist to come to this party and to play. It was a big Country all-star jam session. We walked into the place and it was packed with all these hardcore Country people. I mean, they were just totally Country. A lot of them were older people, and almost all of them smoked. That was one of the things that we noticed. Cigarette smoke was just filling the air."

"You had to swim through it," chokes Owens.

"On this little stage of the club," continues Q-Pek, "was Johnny Cash and Tom T. Hall, a guy from the Oak Ridge Boys, a guy from the Kentucky Headhunters, Minnesota Fats, the old pool player, and all these people I

don't even recognize; but the people that were there obviously recognized 'em. All these Country superstars were there singing and jamming all night long. We waited for a couple of hours, and we were kind of nervous and scared. 'How were these people gonna respond?' we wondered. We got up there around midnight, and we played **Man In Black**. At this point, Johnny had not heard the song our way yet, so Carey did the whole thing through. We did **Looney Tune** and **Red River**. We were just gonna leave 'em with **Red River**, but the publicist got up there and said, 'These guys have come all the way from Austin, Texas. Let's have 'em do one more.' We were trying to decide what to do. We ended up doing **People Cry Out** from the 'Smash' album. It went real well. The guy from the Oak Ridge Boys with the long beard was sittin' kind of in the front and he was clapping his hands through the whole set."

"Most of the folks there in the Heaven's Metal reading audience are very familiar with these names, faces, and physical descriptions," interrupts Womack. "We know your secret listening habits!"

"It was a very surreal-type experience," relates Q-Pek. "Kind of like a dream sequence. I woke up the next morning and I told the guys, 'Hey, I had a dream last night that we played at a Country bar (laughter). We got up there playing this thrash stuff--**Looney Tune**--and it was just wild. A lot of people talked to us afterwards, and they really appreciated the fact that we were Christians and that we were real upfront about it. Even though we played a different style of music and dressed a little differently than they did, they loved the fact that we were a 'Gospel band,' which we were. It was a lot of fun, but very scary. It helped us. We were able to talk to Johnny that night and Carey was able to hand him a letter that he had written expressing his desires for Johnny to be on the project and things like that. Johnny the next day called us up and said, 'I'm in. Friday I'm coming,' and that was that. It was a weird experience."

"They had this house band that had been backing everybody up. When we got up there and were setting up our stuff real quick, one of the guys bent down and asked me, 'Yeah pardner, uh, ya'll got an acoustic guitar player in yer band?'"

"I said, 'No, no we don't.'

"'Oh, do ya need one?'"

"'Uh, no, we're just gonna handle this one on our own, but thanks.' They were willing to back us up! I could've seen the house band try to keep up with us on **Looney Tune** (laughter)."

"John Carter and others did invite us to come back," says Womack, "so when we go back next year, we'll have to let 'em supply their acoustic guitar player since we have the first ever acoustic guitar on a Pig album this year. I don't mean to scare any of you readers away, but that's the Gospel truth."

"Still no keyboards on the new album," states Q-Pek, "which we're proud of, I guess. But yeah, for the first time ever, there's an acoustic guitar on one track. It's called For



A Good Man. It's a very heavy, heavy song lyrically about child abuse. It's got an acoustic guitar on the intro and the outro. It's a real haunting type of song, very intense lyrically."

****What are some of the things that you're hoping God will do with this album? What things are you hoping to communicate?**

"We've sort of subtitled it 'The Sin Sessions' or something," says Womack. "Not because of what we were under the influence of as we recorded it, but because many of the songs deal with themes of sin and personal integrity and being right before the Lord. We didn't set out to do that on purpose, but as all four of us wrote songs for the album, it seemed like that theme came up over and over again. That's something that it seems that the Lord has been doing a lot in the body of Christ as a whole and in our church over the past year, and in our lives, and in our struggles and so-forth as a band.

"There's lots of fun and humor there, but we don't believe anybody can listen to the album without God's Spirit reaching out and challenging them in these areas. We pray that He will do that, not in any way to condemn, but in a way that people might be challenged and a way that people might be freed from things that have weighed them down and things that have inhibited their walk and things that have kept them away from the love and the freedom that are in Christ. We believe that's gonna happen for people as they listen to this record."

"I think that musically it's still the Pig," states Q-Pek, "although there's growth there. We've tried with each album to definitely grow musically and expand ourselves. I think on this album we let a lot more of our influences shine through. At times you hear a little bit of Adam Again or King's X or something like that in there...of course all 'pigged-up' in our way. We had a lot of fun with the record.

"Lyrically, there's definitely some

heavy points to be made. One of the tunes that Phillip wrote is called **The Spirit Of Murder**. We've never been much of a doom and gloom band. It's been quite the opposite. But this song is kind of ominous musically and lyrically and very heavy about the fact that Jesus said that if you hate your brother, it's like you've committed murder already. There's a lot of tunes that are like that in the way of self-examination or really looking at the things in your life, the sins in your life, the day by day experiences that we have, and how the Lord needs to be at the center of our lives instead of these thoughts about sin, and these temptations and things."

"It's kind of neat, though," adds Womack, "the album ends up with two of the only songs on the album that aren't directly related to this theme so much. One song that Paul wrote, called **Never Forget The Cross**, is a simple reminder that, whether we feel bound and impossible to be freed from the sins that beset us, or whether we have pride in our level of righteousness, and we're self-righteous; whatever our position be, whatever our state be, whatever need we have, the bottom line is that we're all lost and we're all helpless without the cross of Christ. But, through the cross of Christ, we have victory over every sin and over every temptation, over every disease, over every evil spirit, and even over death. So, the real simple message of that song is: don't forget the cross. That's where you find the victory. That's where you find the hope and the freedom that comes from nowhere else. Then the album ends with a song that I feel like is the most evangelistic song on the album in a sense. It's kind of weird that I say that, because it's a worship tune. It's probably the first out and out worship tune that the Pig has ever done. Daniel Tucek wrote it and it's just an awesome time of worshipping God. The reason I say it's evangelistic is that there's nothing more convincing for someone who doesn't know the Lord than to be drawn into the presence of God. We certainly are as we listen to it, and as we played it and sang it. We

believe a lot of other people will have that chance too. That's kind of a neat way to end the album."

"On that song," states Q-Pek, "a musical tid-bit, is that we hired a couple of black girls to come in and sing the chorus with us at the end and to just wail and go off vocally. It's really something different for the Pig, but it was a lot of fun for us to do that. It definitely adds to the worship at the end with the praise choruses being sung."

"A white girl even came in with 'em," adds Womack, "and she managed to wail too."

****I'm glad you're an inter-racial band.**

"That's right," laughs Q-Pek. "We're an equal opportunity band."

****Okay, One Bad Pig is, as a unit, one on one with Heaven's Metal readers right now. Let's have a confrontation concerning the song Cut Your Hair.**

"I think it's a lot like **Smash The Guitar**," explains Owens. "We're not telling everyone to go smash their guitars, or every guitar you see go smash. **Smash The Guitar** confronts the attitude of, 'If music is ruling your life, then get rid of it.' In metal music, a lot of people don't all relate to guitars, so if you don't play guitar that might not hit as close to home as your own hair. It's not just hair, it's everything. It's your appearance or anything. The point with hair is it's a lot more personal. Everyone's got it. Even if your hair's short, it can ruin your life if all you do is sit and comb each spike up day after day, you know, it has to be perfect and you spend hours looking at yourself in the mirror making yourself beautiful. Then something's not right. You're vain or you're prideful. You're letting your hair rule your life. If your hair's taking the place of God... If you spend all your time doing your hair and you don't spend any time with the Lord, then you've got a problem.

"I related the song to long hair, because it really hits home to the metal fans. A lot of us have long hair and really worship it. We say, 'I have to have long hair. I don't care if everybody in my family tells me to cut it off. I don't care if all my employers say I have to have short hair. I'm doing my own thing. I'm going to do it my way. I'll have my hair however I want.' That's not the right attitude or the right reason to have long hair. That's the attitude we're confronting."

"This isn't a cut and dry statement," adds Q-Pek. "There are 'ifs' to it. The Bible says, 'If something offends you, you should cut it off or cut it out, or get rid of it. Basically, Metal and hair have become synonymous. 'Oh, we've gotta grow our hair out! When we have our hair, we'll have a ministry.' That's just like saying, 'When I get a guitar, I'll have a ministry. When I get a record contract, I'll have a

ministry.' But the Lord says we don't need to concentrate on those things. We don't need to put those things first. We need to put Him first. It's just saying, 'Seek the kingdom of God and all these things will be added to you,' in a different way. So, if you seek God's kingdom, you can have long hair (laughs). No."

"I'm not really bothered by us having the Cut Your Hair song on there," explains Womack, "but there is that song we have called Phad Thai. It's sort of Oriental sounding, and I don't want people to be too worried that it has anything to do with New Age or anything."

"That's the shortest song the Pig has ever done," explains Q-Pek. "It's about nineteen seconds long. It's a lot of fun. People will just have to figure it out."

****Why don't you take this time and chronicle the entrance of Daniel into the band?**

"Daniel was my youth pastor," states Phillip.

"Streak, as you know, was our last bass player," explains Q-Pek. "He was with the band for a long time, I think over three years. He told us about a month or two before he was going to leave the band that he planned on leaving. At that time we were touring quite a bit--a couple weekends a month. They were just long jaunts out of Austin to places like Maryland, Pennsylvania, and places like this. We had some 30-hour drives to get to some places. We'd play a Friday night and drive, and play Saturday night and drive all the way back home and people had jobs to go to and families and things.

"Streak married into a kind of 'ready-made' family. The lady that he married had two children already, older girls--eight and ten--and so he just really felt that his constant touring with the Pig and concentrating on that area was taking away from what needed to happen with the family there. These girls had grown up their whole life without a father in the house and they really needed a dad to be at home; so he decided that that ministry--and the family is definitely a ministry--was a higher priority. We all definitely acknowledged with him and agreed with him that it was where he needed to be and that he was right in doing that. We're all very, very proud of Streak, that he was able to listen to the Lord and able to get his priorities in line.

"As far as Daniel goes, we just prayed that the Lord would send us a bass player. We didn't know anybody really in Austin that was gonna fit the bill or whatever. We were thinking about putting ads in different magazines for a nationwide thing, thinking that, 'Well, now that we're on Myrrh Records, we could probably get somebody to move to Austin that would want to play bass for the Pig. Right under our noses was our



Pig AFTER L to R: Carey, Paul, Phillip, Daniel

soundman--Daniel Tucek. He had gone out with us on several occasions to do gigs, so he knew what the band was all about. He was a youth pastor at a time when Phillip, the youngest member of the band (22), was actually a teenager and in the youth group. He just said, 'Hey, I'd like to audition.' Daniel was not a bass player so to speak; he played a little guitar at the time. We said, 'Sure, let's go for it.' So he learned some of the songs and played 'em for us and played it fine. It was just what the Pig needed, so we said, 'Cool, let's do it.' We went out on some gigs and then, further on down the line, Daniel made a firm commitment to the band. It's been great. He plays all the bass parts, every single one of them, on the new record--'I Scream Sunday.' He did a great job. We're happy to have him in the group."

****What would be a major lesson that each one of you has learned in the last year?**

"Family comes first."

"Family comes first," says Owens. "That's probably the major lesson that the band as a whole has learned as well as individuals."

"That's one of the lessons that I've learned," says Q-Pek, "is to stop playing games; to get serious about the Lord. As artists, we tend to take more liberties. In other words, 'We're creative, so we're kind of above having strict rules and accountability, and things like that.' I think I'm seeing more and more that we need to get our priorities in line, even though that means we might not be able to do a concert here and there, or might have to sacrifice doing this or that--what we want to do musically for being able to spend time with

the family and getting our priorities totally straight with God and our commitments to different things. I would have to agree with Phillip." Turning to Womack, he asks, "What have you learned Carey?"

"Family comes first," Womack answers.

"You can't say that," quips Q-Pek. "We already said that."

"Speaking of family," says Tucek, "I've learned that the band, in a lot of sense, is a family. How we have to relate to each other and work things out that are difficult. Being honest with each other and being able to forgive each other. In that way, it's been like a family sort of. One of the things I've learned personally, though, is in the past year that I've been with the Pig, it's been a real growing and stretching experience for me, because I've never been in a band before. The whole thing was totally new and exciting and different."

"Any parting comments?" asks Womack.

"Don't record your neighbor's tape!" shouts Owens. "Buy your own!"

"We're going to be playing at the Cornerstone Festival this year," states Q-Pek. "We're tremendously excited about that. Our label right now plans to record a live album and a live video there. It should be a lot of fun. We love playing at Cornerstone. We were very privileged to be asked back there again this year. We hope to meet a lot of our fans again and renew some old acquaintances up there, and see the other bands, cause we're still very much big-time fans of the other groups and stuff. It's just amazing to us that we're in the same business as them."

"If they should see us anywhere around the country or wherever over the next year," says Womack, "and you think it might be really cute, really fun, or a creative idea to ha, ha, ha, surprise the Pig guys with ice cream or something truly original...we won't turn it down." (laughs wickedly) HM

NOVELLA'S SONG

By Doug Van Pelt

L to R: Jon Spinola, Adam Gibson, Jonathan Pagano



Novella, who wet the appetite of melodic hard rockers everywhere with its "Running Home" single on "The Axemen" album, have finally arrived with a full-length album on Star Song Records—"One Big Sky." Along with its debut album, Novella has become a full band that is busy making things happen. The band has played a few showcases in Nashville, filmed a video in Tulsa, and is appearing at some festivals this summer. Before the band's popularity grows beyond proportion and band leader Jonathan Pagano starts refusing to talk to Heaven's Metal (just kidding), we thought we'd sit him down for a short interview introducing the band.

****Tell us about your musical background, and walk us through the evolution of it.**

"Basically when I was younger I just listened to Country music," admits Jonathan. "I didn't even listen to rock or anything at the time. Then I started listening to some Christian stuff. Phil Keaggy was a big influence during high school. Once I got into college I started listening to commercial rock, like Journey, The Police, Yes, Kansas, and stuff. It just progressed from there. I started listening to more commercial stuff and more non-commercial. That's basically it. Now I listen to everything from George Winston-type stuff to heavy metal to jazz to pop. I listen to it all, and it all really influences me."

****Yeah, I can see traces of those all over the record. Why do you write the style of music you do?**

"Probably the same reason everyone

does, because they enjoy it. A lot of times it's not what I want to write, it's just what comes out. What's been put in over the years finds its way out. That's basically it. It's what I would enjoy listening to."

****It's neat to be able to do that. I think a lot of musicians don't perform what they would actually enjoy listening to. I think a lot of us like real melodic, polished stuff like Journey, but not very many of us could pull it off.**

"I'm a Christian & I have really strong beliefs which I incorporate into my music, but it's not like *if I wasn't a musician I'd be a preacher.*"

"I think a lot of people also just write stuff to please other people, and not themselves. They do something that other

people are doing and is popular. They do it for money or whatever it is, instead of being motivated by the music itself and the enjoyment of it. This is sad."

****I think the best music you'll ever hear is from people writing what's inside of them. How would you describe how you write?**

"Well, first I think it's fresh, definitely for the Christian market place. I'm not familiar with a lot of Christian lyrics that are like ours. It definitely leans in the emotional side. It's very expressive. It's not surface lyrics, that you can hear once and you know exactly what's happening. They're not shallow, but in-depth lyrics designed to draw people into it and get involved with it. You know, listen to it, interpret it, think about it. That's the intent of the lyric."

****Did you try to write away from the Steve Perry sound? Why or why not?**

"It's not like I was writing away from it. The writing is a developing thing, and I think it was a natural progression. I was definitely trying to develop my own vocal style, because I don't want to rip anybody off and I definitely wanna be known for what I do rather than for sounding like somebody. So there was definitely an intention to develop my own vocal style. That's what I'm in the process of doing. Everyone has influences, and for some people it's really evident in the early stages of their musical career. It's always good to develop into your own, besides, Christian music has enough copy-cats."

****How did Novella get signed?**

"Basically it was me who got signed. Then I went ahead and put the band together. It pretty much came out of the 'Running Home' song on 'The Axemen' album. It did relatively well. It got a lot of recognition. Based on that, Pure Metal at the time offered me a recording contract. I kind of sat on it for a while, and then decided to go with it and put the band together after that."

****How did the "Running Home" thing happen?**

"There was a local contest in one of the Christian music magazines, and I entered it with 'Running Home' and it won. From that, one of the things offered was it being included on a compilation record."

****What are your goals with your music?**

"I'd like to continue what we're doing. I'd like to continue to express myself through music. I wouldn't want to stop doing

that. If I did, I think I'd want to stop doing music altogether. Another goal would definitely be to reach as many people, Christian and non-Christian with what I'm saying and doing musically."

****How did you come to Christ?**

"Well, I was raised in the church. I came to know God when I was about seven years old. I grew up in an Assembly Of God church. My parents were before that, and both of my grandparent's fathers were evangelists. My father's father was a church starter in Italy before he came here to America. There was a pretty long heritage of Christianity in the family, so it was pretty much what I was brought up in."

****Cool. So, you've just been growing in the Lord since then?**

"Yeah, I've definitely gone through a lot of different phases and different growth steps."

****Who's singing the Blues intro to "Lay It On Me," and how did that come about?**

"The guy's originally from Harlem. He lived in the same neighborhood as the drummer, Adam, in New Brunswick. His name is Solo, and there's him and a bunch of guys who used to sit on the corner and sing all the time. They had like a little a capella singing group, like the old do-wap stuff. We heard him and really liked what he was doing, and so we brought him and a bunch of people in to do background vocals. During the session, we just told him to rip off something impromptu and he did, and we ended up using it at the beginning of the song. It was really cool."

****And the lyrics and everything were impromptu?**

"Everything was just totally spur-of-the-moment. We told him what the song was about. I think that was like the third take. He just went off. It was pretty cool."

****Tell me about your touring plans.**

"Well, I'm really thinking it's pretty much coming together step by step. Right now we're going to be doing some of the festivals for the summer. We'll just be doing dates here and there, you know, as people get to know the band and we get more airplay on the radio and what not. Right now it's gonna be sparse and sporadic, just building it up. Hopefully in the Fall we'll be doing a bigger tour. We'll just keep working hard until we're out on the road steadily."

****Tell me a little bit about yourself and each band member.**

"We're all in our mid-20's, we'll leave it at that, and none of us are married. Intentionally unmarried. We all pretty much work for ourselves in the meantime. Between



Photo by Paul Wharton

that and music, we get together a lot, we rehearse a lot, and we're constantly writing music. It pretty much takes up all our time."

****Have you got a lot more material?**

"We've got a bunch of material that we're working on for the second album. Hopefully we'll have about 30 songs to choose from for the next one. It'll be very similar to what we're doing now, yet very different. That says a lot, but doesn't say a thing."

****Do you have any advice for any young, up-and-coming musicians?**

"Well, if they want to do music as a career, they've gotta know that it's really hard work. It's not easy. It's not glamorous. So far it hasn't been glamorous at all (laughs). Basically, if you really love music, I'd encourage somebody to stick at it. If you're just doing it for money, fame, women, any of those reasons, you might as well choose another career. If you do it because you love music and love what you're doing; I mean, that's why I

would do it. I'm a Christian and I have really strong beliefs which I incorporate into my music, but it's not like if I wasn't a musician I'd be a preacher. I'm not a preacher. If anybody thinks along those lines: If they're a preacher and they play guitar, maybe they should go into music. Unless they really write good music, I wouldn't encourage them into the musical field. Like I said, the biggest reason to be in music is because you love music and you do it well."

****How can the reader of Heaven's Metal pray for Novella?**

"Well, first of all, they definitely can, and we'd definitely encourage that. Basically we just ask people to pray how they're led. God knows what we need more than we do. For me to say, 'Pray for this and that and that,' is just putting people in a box. I definitely don't like doing that, as you can tell. I'd just encourage people to pray for us and just be led by how God wants them to pray for us; because that'll get the most results for us." **HM**

Peering Into The World Of Seraiah

By Marc Carpenter

Marc Carpenter caught up with Brad Beckey of Seraiah to talk about the band's formation and recording of its debut album.

****I'm sure that many people who've heard "Carnival World" are saying, "Wow--is that the same band who did the 'Rock Without Sin' demo?" Tell us about the changes that have occurred since that demo.**

"Basically, the only member change that occurred was that the old lead singer, David McClung, left the band. He had a family and felt called to them as his first responsibility, and they were also looking for a different kind of vocalist, I think, than what David had to offer.

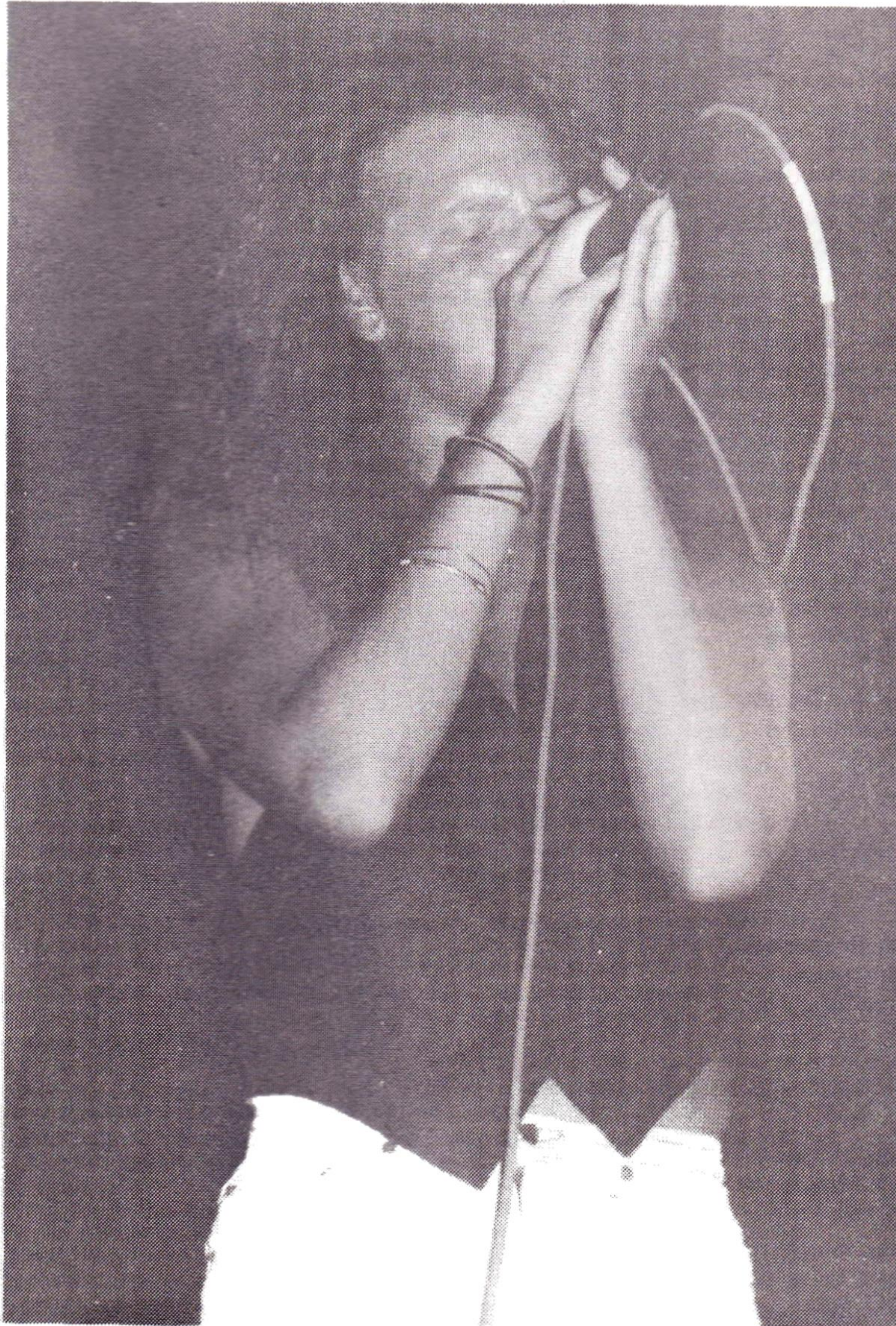
I sang in a lot of cover bands and bar bands in high school before I got saved. I got saved when I was a senior in high school, and was looking for something where God could use my musical ability. All of us go to Indiana Wesleyan University, and I had a friend who was going down here at the time. He told me to get a demo tape together, give it to them (Seraiah), and see what happens. It was probably two months after I came down here that I joined the band, and we started doing gigs around Indiana.

"As far as the musical style change goes, I guess we kind of wanted to get away from the cliché 'Rock for God' kind of lyrics and stuff like that. Stuff like that was cool in the beginnings of Christian metal--and you saw a lot of that, you know, the kind of 'Yay God' type songs... We definitely need songs uplifting God, but we wanted to touch on some issues concerning real people and the church today and how a real God would view those issues. We try to give them some guidance through scripture in our songs and address some of the problems that people may go through, being either saved or unsaved."

****So you're all still in college.**

"I'm a sophomore, and I'm leaving after this semester. Quinton Gibson and Kyle Dietz, our guitarist and drummer, are

graduating in January, and I just feel that God's calling me to concentrate more on the band, because Kyle and I split half and half doing the business of the band, and that's taking up a lot of my time. I just feel like God's given me the opportunity to do this, and I'm ready for it."



Brad Beckey

Photo by Steve Craig

****What does it feel like, already being signed to a label at age 21?**

"I guess it really hasn't changed my view or perspective of things. It's all through the grace of God that everything has happened. It's a little strange though, I mean, we just had

an in-store appearance at a local Musicland here, and we were kind of thinking, 'Man, I hope some people show up,' because a lot of people around here are so used to seeing us, but it was supposed to go from 7 to 7:45, and it ended up going to like 8:30, we had so many people in line. It's kind of strange to see things like that which I'm not really used to, like

people lined up to get my autograph. It's definitely a blessing from God, but all of us try to keep it in check; I mean, we don't need our egos getting out of hand."

****I'd like to take off on that. What would you say to someone who comes up to you and says, "Oh, I can't believe it! I'm actually talking with a Rock star!" How do you approach that?**

"I'd try to get their view off me and tell them, 'Hey, I'm not a Rock star. That's not what I or any of the other guys are about.' I'd just try to get their view on the real Star--Jesus Christ. I'd tell them, 'If I'm giving you the kind of view that I'm like some kind of Rock star, then I'm doing something wrong, because what I'm doing should reflect Christ through me.' And I'd rather have them see Christ through me than see me up there with long hair and crazy clothes running around making a fool out of myself."

****Why are you doing what you're doing?**

"I see more and more bands today really concerned with the Rock star image and stuff like that, and I personally don't think there's anything wrong with having long hair and being with the type of crowd we're trying to reach, but I also see a lot of bands that are looking for their inspiration from a lot of

the secular world, and I think to myself, 'Man, wouldn't it be really cool, instead of looking to the secular world for their inspiration that they look towards God.' We'd have a lot better bands in Christian metal--a lot more original bands. I heard from Jim Erdmann, the guitarist for Xalt who produced the album, that we don't have to listen to secular music to hear what's going on in the music world today--all we have to do is look at the Christian bands that are coming out, because so many of them



This is what VCR's were invented for...

AVAILABLE AT ALL LOUD CHRISTIAN BOOKSTORES

or by calling 615-269-0196 • A division of Star Song Communications • 2325 Crestmoor Nashville, TN 37215



"If there are a bunch of long-haired guys speaking 'Christian-ese' at them, using all these big churchy words, then they're just going to sit there and go, 'Huh?' They need somebody who can get down on their level and say, 'Hey man, I've been there. God delivered me out of that.'"

are trying to be like secular bands. Wouldn't it be great if we finally got our eyes off them to see what's going on and got them on God and got all of our creativity from God?"

****Well, how would you react to people who say that you guys sound like Motley Crue or Poison?**

"I think I would have to say that definitely we all have pasts of being in bands before we got saved. Before I got saved, I used to listen to Bon Jovi and Ratt and stuff like that. And I would just say that when God changed our lives, He changed our hearts, but the influences of our past are still going to come through. A lot of people are comparing us to Whitecross and Rage Of Angels, which is cool. I very much respect Rex Carroll and Scott Wenzel of Whitecross, and Rage of Angels seemed to be good musicians, although I don't know very much about R.O.A.'s

spirituality."

****Going back to Jim Erdmann, I've heard him play live, and I really like his guitar work. How did you decide to use Jim to co-produce the album?**

"Well, Pure Metal used to be a part of Refuge Music, and that was more of their decision. Originally, Rey Parra from Sacred Warrior was supposed to produce the album. But it was just their decision. But we ended up getting along really well with Jim, and he did a good job for the time that he had."

****Did you know Jim before this?**

"We knew them in the sense that we had received their 'Dark War' tape, because they were going to come down here to Indiana and open up a couple shows for us. Then I came to find out that their lead singer, Scott Doerfler, and I used to go to camp together, which I didn't realize. His name always sounded familiar, and then we played at MetalFest together and I realized, 'Hey Scott, I used to go to camp with you!' Now we're really good friends. As a matter of fact, our drummer is filling in for them because they lost their drummer."

****Try to describe to someone who hasn't seen you what you're like in concert.**

"We're trying to get some visual aspects that tie in with the 'Carnival' theme. I think it's a pretty high-energy show. I play rhythm guitar on some songs. Our bass player, Michael McClung, is a madman on stage. Sometimes he looks like he belongs in Vengeance Rising."

****Some bands will basically go and play its music and that's it, with very little Christian references. Is that what you guys plan to do?**

"No, not at all. We've always been real up-front and bold, just because a lot of times I've gone to see some Christian bands and they'll play, and they won't say anything except for maybe a 'God bless you' at the end of the show. And I think, 'Where was the message to all these kids out here? I know I see these kids over here who need Christ, and these guys didn't say anything. Tonight could've been the night that one of them gave their life to Him.' We feel very accountable to our audience and very accountable to the fact that tonight could be the only night that one young person--and even if it's just one young person out in the crowd--is going to hear about Christ."

****You're obviously very bold with your stand for Christ, and this shows up in your lyrics. I assume you already know that you're going to be discriminated against because of your stand. You're not going to be able to play in certain places, you're not going to be on the radio on certain stations, etc. Why would you**

take that risk?

"Just because of the fact that Christ tells us to go out unto all the world and tell the Gospel. And if that's coming from God Himself, who am I to water it down and say, 'Well, I'm not really going to do that tonight.' We've played some non-Christian venues, and we're still trying to be just as outspoken. One thing we really stress is that we don't preach at kids, because we're not like that as individuals. If anything, we try to be real with them and tell them that we've been through what they're going through, and God delivered us out of it. A lot of us guys in the band were involved in the drug scene, drank a lot, ran around with girls, and whatever. I think that's what kids really need, more than to be preached at. If there are a bunch of long-haired guys speaking 'Christian-ese' at them, using all these big churchy words, then they're just going to sit there and go, 'Huh?' They need somebody who can get down on their level and say, 'Hey man, I've been there. God delivered me out of that.'"

****On to some of your songs. Did Kyle, who wrote The Nature Of Things, have a certain person or persons in mind when he wrote it, or is it just a general song in reaction to what's going on in America?**

"Actually, it came after he was watching a talk show on television, and there was something about lifestyles. And two of the lifestyles represented were lesbians and homosexuals. He just felt a real ache about that and felt that it was an area that needed addressing. We are a band that likes to confront issues that people are going through, and God was telling him that this was one of the songs that should go on the album. A lot of times when we play it in concert, I try to get it across that it's not a 'bashing' song, it's a compassionate song. It's a song of hope in something that there doesn't seem like there's a whole lot of hope out of, because I know that there are a lot of homosexuals out there who don't know how to get out of it, but they want to. I think God can get rid of it, because He's the healer of all wounds. He's definitely the way out."

****You make references to abortion in two songs. Hear Their Cry is all about abortion, and Rise Up mentions it as well. Why is abortion such an important topic for you to tackle?**

"Abortion comes as a real shock to me and the other guys in the band, number one, because it is murder--it is an unborn child. God says that He knows us in the womb. He's definitely saying that they are people. It's also a real shock because it's happening in places like hospitals. It used to be that babies were supposed to be safe in places like that; it seemed like that's where they would be cared for. But no, that's where they're being murdered, and it just seems like such a contradiction. It used to be one of those back-alley kind of things, and now it's not."

****Exactly.** It's so schizophrenic now that on the same floor of the hospital, in one room, doctors could be doing all in their power to save a premature baby, and in another room, they're doing all in their power to kill a baby who's exactly the same age.

"It's sickening. It really worries me, because it just shows how our society has grown so apathetic towards life in general. I saw on the news a couple weeks ago when I was home in Michigan where some pro-life people, some Christian people, were lying down in front of a doctor's Bronco, trying to get him to stop from going into the abortion clinic. He knew that they were there, and he just ran over them. It made me angry. I couldn't believe he did that. It shows the view that there isn't a real concern over human life; it's just a concern about money."

****Do you think the church is partly at fault for what's going on?**

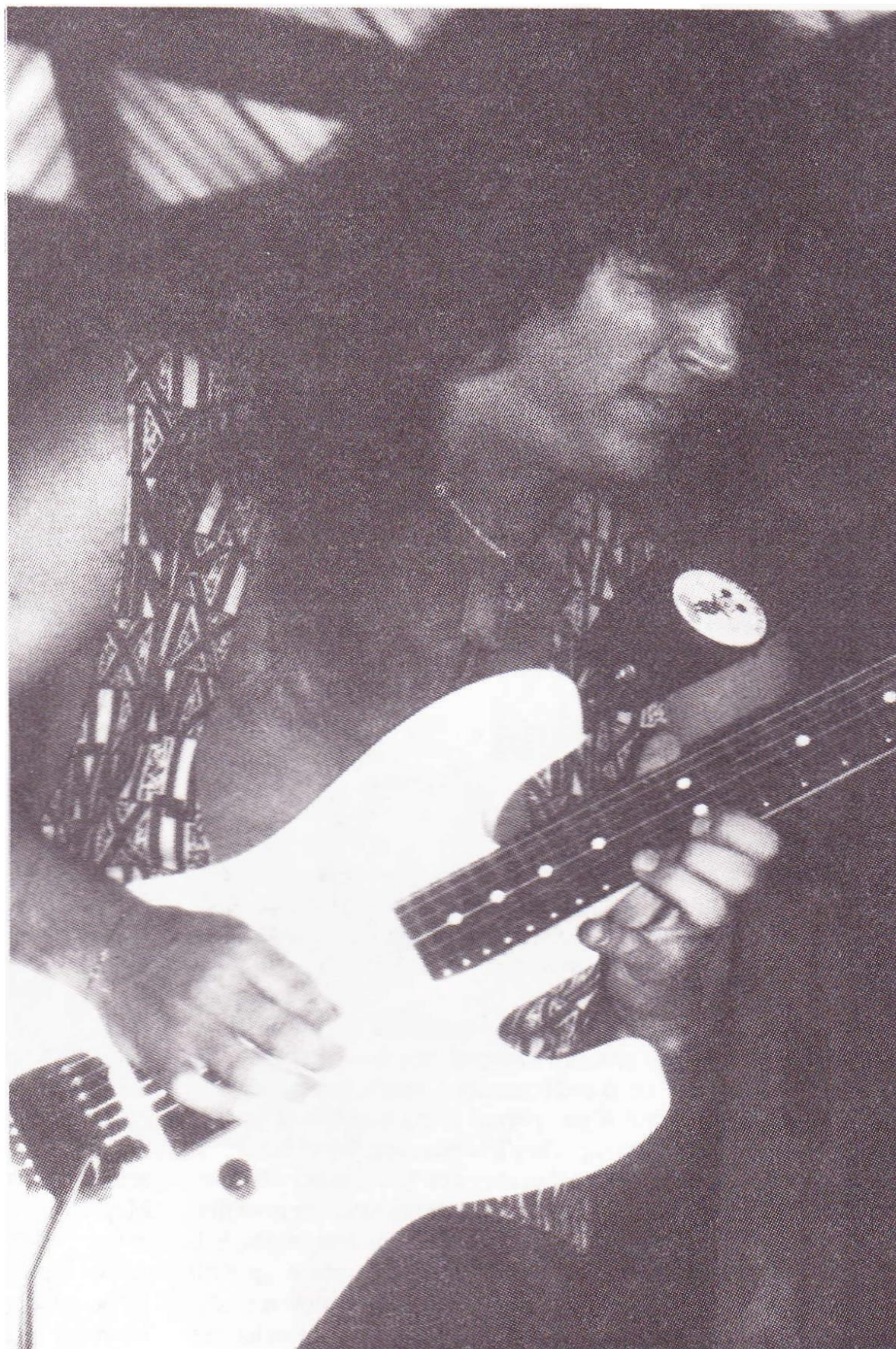
"Yes, just because we seem to have just sat back, and we've become a church of reaction instead of action. We sit back and say, 'Oh my gosh, that's terrible, let's pray about it'--which is cool, because our prayers are a big defense against things like this--but we don't take any action towards it."

****What do you think of blocking abortion clinics?**

"Yeah, we met a guy from the Chicago area who was doing that. He was down here at a concert. One of the things that we put out in a past newsletter was the fact that God says that we're under authority to the government, but the government isn't always right. And I think that if it takes blocking doors, sitting in front of cars, and things like that, then I think that's cool. It's for the glory of God in saving human life, and life is precious. I'm all for it."

****Yeah,** and the leader of the movement here in Vermont has actually been able to hold in his arms a baby who was saved this way. The pregnant woman didn't go into the clinic because it was blocked, the sidewalk counselors talked with her, and she decided to keep her baby. The baby is alive today!

"That's worth it. Even just that one makes it all worth it. We're real advocates of being involved in everything. Christians should be involved in what's going on in the government, getting out and voting and knowing what you're voting for. We're under authority of the government, but I already see the state as having so much power over us, and, in the beginning it was supposed to be the other way around--where we controlled what happened.



Guitarist Quinton Gibson

Photo by Steve Craig

Now the state's getting more and more power, to the point where the state says, 'Yeah, it's okay to murder an unborn baby.' That's scary."

****Many people are curious about who came up with the idea of the music to Let Him Take Control.**

"Out of all the songs, that seems to be the one that everybody loves the most. That was Quinton's idea. And I think we put it on the album to have something different. It's kind of a praise song, which is cool to break up all the other issue-oriented songs, to show that we're not only concerned with bringing up issues, but also in praising God. It's a cool song; we had a lot of fun recording it in the studio. It was really cool working with Steve Griffith. He had done stuff with The Altar Boys and had a ton of ideas for what to do on the song. We were basically caught in the Pure Metal switch from Refuge to Star Song. We recorded the album in New Jersey with Jim Erdmann before Pure Metal was sold, and then after it was sold, Quinton and I went down to Nashville and did some other recording and we totally re-did Let Him Take Control, and that's when we worked with Steve Griffith, who remixed the album. In concert, we play Let Him Take Control a little differently--we start it off acoustically, and then it gets heavy at the end."

****Any final words to the readers, some of whom are Christians and some not?**

"To the Christians: It seems kind of cliché, but keep strong, and like one of our songs say, 'Don't let your heart become fallen away from God.' Keep looking to Him for inspiration and strength.

"To non-Christians: If you don't know what Jesus Christ is about and you're interested, check into it somehow. Find out about Him that He was a real man, and He was also the Son of God. He was Who He said He was."

This just in: Bassist Michael McClung has left Seraiah. He feels God is leading him to a different ministry. The band is now accepting audition tapes. Interested parties send tape, photo, bio, and telephone number to: Seraiah, PO Box 1192, Marion IN 46952. HM

TRIUMPHANT GUITAR

By Chris Elrod



Photo (c) Roger Riveland

Ever since Whitecross came on the Christian music scene with their debut album, there has been a "buzz" about guitarist Rex Carroll. He was featured in Contemporary Christian Music Magazine's Christian guitar players issue and is a musical hero to hundreds of Christian guitarists around the world. Mixing the Blues-Rock influence of his youth and combining it with the Classical training he received in college, Rex has carved out his own niche and sound in contemporary Christian music. Musician Chris Elrod had a chance to talk to him, while on break from Whitecross' "Triumphant Return" tour, about his guitar playing.

****You started off playing violin and then the keyboards, what made you decide to pick up the guitar?**

"Well, I was given a guitar for my tenth birthday, because I was beating on drums. I guess my parents figured if they were going to have to listen to ten years of music they'd rather listen to a guitar than a drum kit."

****What was your first guitar?**

"It was an acoustic guitar that had strings about four inches off the neck and I can't remember what it was."

****Who were your early influences?**

"Those were Eric Clapton and Peter Frampton."

****You're considered a pretty fast player. Was speed something you concentrated on and worked on when you first started out, or was it something that came naturally over a period of time?**

"That's interesting that people consider me a fast player. I'm glad to hear that, because I don't consider myself fast among the fast, like Paul Gilbert or Yngwie Malmsteen. I don't think I can play as fast as those guys and there's a couple of other dudes too. I do work on speed, it's like an aspect that you should try to develop, I guess. It's one of many things that's good to have at your disposal."

posals."

****While you're considered a fast player, your solos also show a great sense of melody. Do you feel it's more important to play fast or play melodic?**

"It's more important to play melodic. If you give the audience one note that they can grab onto and remember, they'll remember that and not if you played thirty minutes of power, speed guitar. They'll remember, 'Wow, he's a fast guitar player,' but they won't remember what you played. It's more important to have one note that really sings. Actually, when I'm doing solos, like on records, it's a lot harder to come up with something that's like a medium to slow melodic solo. Those kinds of things are always a lot harder than to play fast, because we guitar players spend so much time learning how to play fast that it's like second nature. It's a lot harder to think up something that fits the song and will have a memorable line to it."

****Not only do you play great solos, but you are also a solid rhythm player. Was there anything in particular that you practiced in order to get your rhythm chops down?**

"I guess it's just the fact that I was always a good reader and I learned the divisions

of the beat. With a lot of guitar players, that is one disadvantage that they have, sometimes they don't learn all the subdivisions of the beat that are possible. When recording, it's surprisingly enough, one of the hardest things that you'll do is try to record two rhythm guitar tracks evenly in time with each other. You'll be surprised that even the simplest of lines or rhythm guitar parts will become difficult when you're trying to play it exactly in time for the record, and I think just being aware of the time divisions is helpful."

****Having been a guitar teacher in the past, do you have any desire to put out an instructional book or video like a lot of other popular guitar players do?**

"I'm going to do a video for Star Song, and I'm very excited about that, because I've wanted to do a video for about three years now. They came to me and said, 'We've got this idea about doing a guitar video, are you interested?' They were, like, prepared to try to talk me into it and I said, 'No, no, no, you don't have to talk me into it. It's something that I've wanted to do for quite some time.' That's exciting."

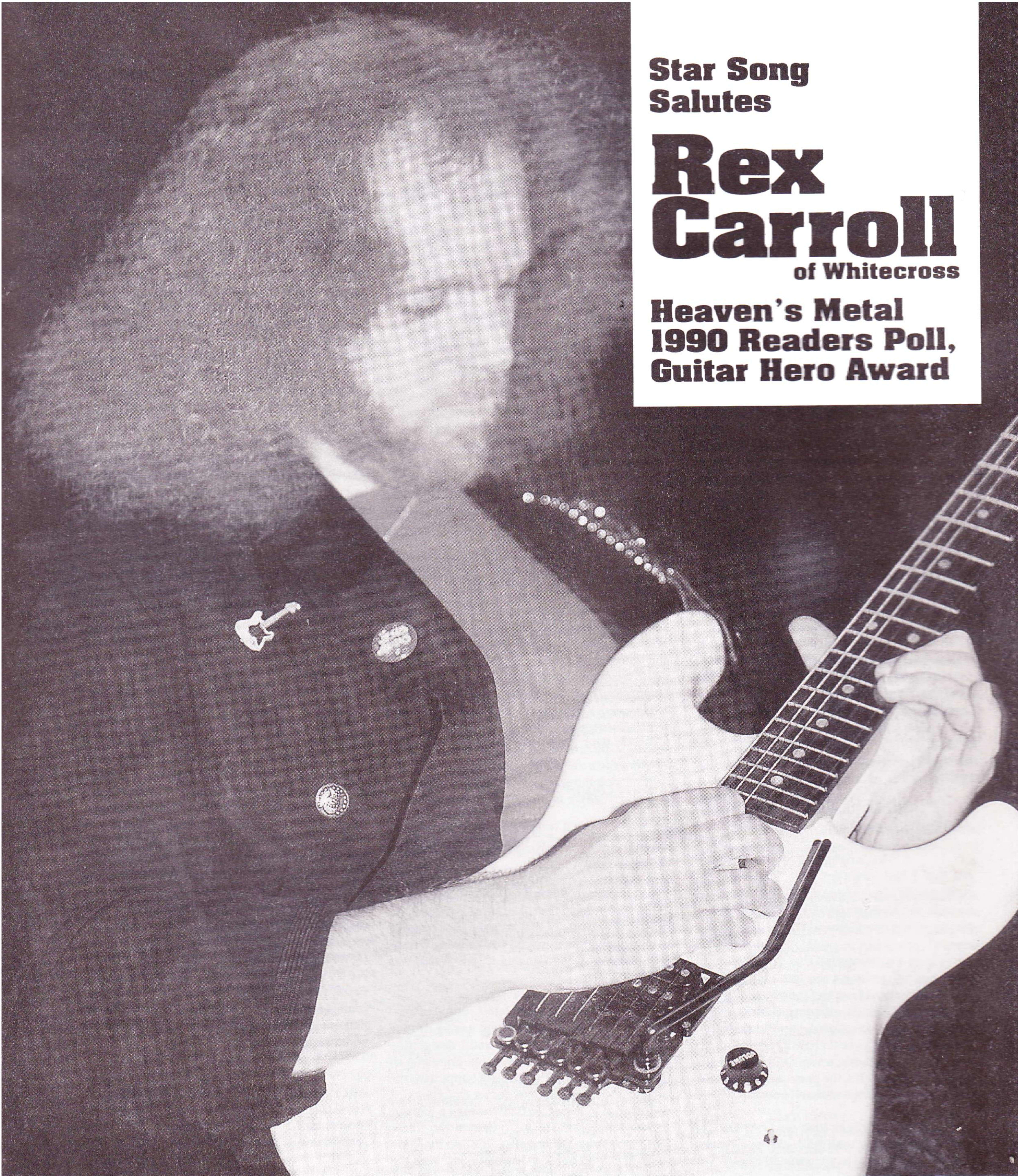
****Is it frustrating to only be known for your guitar talent in the Christian music market but get no recognition from some of the secular guitar magazines like Guitar Player or Guitar World?**

"Yeah, it would be nice to have some more of the mainstream recognition. I would certainly not say it's from lack of trying on my part, but I guess the Lord will have to open that door for that kind of recognition to happen. Maybe there's a good reason for something like that not to happen. Yeah, it is a little frustrating now and then not to have more...just to have more people know who you are, I guess."

****On Whitecross' debut album there was a lot of guitar fills in between the vocal lines, but I don't hear that much of it on albums after that. Why did that stop?**

"Somebody else said that too, and actually I haven't been aware of that, really! Maybe I don't sit down and study my own albums as much as other people do. I'd like to think that maybe I'm writing rhythm guitar lines that stand up better by themselves. Maybe so, maybe not. Maybe it would be good to have more guitar, I don't know. To answer that question, I certainly feel that 'Triumphant Return' is every bit as much of a guitar fest as the first album. It's like from a certain standpoint, it's like I don't worry about doing a solo album because it's like every Whitecross album is pretty jammed-packed with tons of guitar on it. I've never really considered that."

****On the solos for No Way I'm Going Down, All I Need, and Nagasaki, you flick the toggle switch back and forth. I haven't heard that technique since Eddie Van Halen did it in the late**



**Star Song
Salutes**

**Rex
Carroll**
of Whitecross

**Heaven's Metal
1990 Readers Poll,
Guitar Hero Award**

**Watch for the new WHITECROSS
release "IN THE KINGDOM"**



2325 CRESTMOOR
NASHVILLE, TN 37215
615/269-0196

Whitecross has finished its fourth album, "In The Kingdom," which is certain to open more doors for the band that is starting to do for Christian Metal what Petra did for Christian Rock. The production sonics are bigger than ever before, yet the styles covered are much wider than anything the band has ever tried. One of the ballads, *In His Hands*, is a downright AC ballad—the kind you'd hear on a most conservative Christian radio station. Some of the rockers, *We Know What's Right* and *No Second Chances*, git the lead out as usual. *We Know...* has some very progressive sudden stops, reminiscent of Rush or King's X, which forges some new ground for Rex and company. Producer Simon Hanhart, who has worked with Saxon, Babylon A.D., and The Killer Dwarfs among others, was heard saying, "Most of the Christian Metal albums I've heard sound like bad demo tapes of their secular counterparts." He did a swell job making this album sound full in a lot of places.

New members Butch Dillon (bass) and Michael Feighan (drums) both came from the San Diego area and played with the Bob Hardy band. Rex has said that he's never worked with a better lineup. The band sounds very full live and holds a groove effortlessly. Rex himself makes his presence known guitar-wise throughout the album, giving himself ammunition to possibly repeat as the "Heaven's Metal Guitar Hero" next year. He's won the award four years in a row now! The upcoming "Metal Mission" video featuring Whitecross should showcase Rex and the band very favorably, giving old and new fans a visual representation behind the incredible sonics.

seventies. Who influenced that technique on you?

"Randy Rhoads did it all the time, and don't forget Angus Young there too."

**That's right, you're pointing things out that I had forgotten. On "Hammer And Nail" people began to see the Bluesy side of Rex Carroll. Which do you prefer, the Bluesy style of playing or the neo-Classical style?

"I've always felt that I'm a Blues guitarist with... I guess it's the fact that I went to school and learned correctly how to play, that some of that Classical influence rubbed off too. But I've always considered myself primarily a Blues guitarist. It's like there will be many nights, at a lot of the live shows, where I will do the whole night using two scales, the penatonic Blues scale and the minor scale, and that'll be it."

**The guitar tone on *Love On The Line* was a different tone that we'd been hearing on the first album. Do you remember what you used or how you got it?

"Would you agree that there's been a different tone on every album?"

**Yes I would, particularly the new album.

"Can I ask you a question? Is there a public consensus over favorite tone out of all the four different recordings?"

**Yeah, I think that many people are impressed with the tones and production of "Triumphant Return." Particularly the rhythm tones you achieved.

"Well cool, that means it's heading in the right direction. Well, I'll run it down real quick. The first album was done with Marshall JCM 800's. I used a thirty-one band EQ to overdrive the thing to pieces and I fussed a lot with the EQ's on the mix also. When we did the *Love On The Line* recording, that was like we flew into the studio, we didn't bring any of our own gear, so I asked them to come up with a Boogie. I couldn't tell you which model it was. I think I brought my Marshall amp from home and I think that was it."

**You've played slide quite a few times on record. Do you use open tunings for the slide parts you play?

"I've never used open tunings, but I've messed around with slide for years and years. I spent some time listening to the Allman Brothers recordings and you know who is an excellent slide player, who many people don't think about, is Michael Schenker. Listen to his stuff, he uses slide guitar a lot. And another person that people don't associate with slide guitar is Ritchie Blackmore, but he's got a few subtle moves that he does with a slide also. Actually, I think the guy who influenced me the most in slide guitar was probably Rod Price. Do you remember that name?"

**No.

"You'll have to dig out your Foghat albums. Stuff like *Slow Ride* and slightly before that time frame."

**On *When The Walls Come Down*, at the beginning of the solo, there's one note and right in the middle of that note the tone makes a drastic change as if maybe you're using a wah-wah pedal or really flanging it out. What was that?

"That was a Cry Baby (a brand of wah-wah pedal). On that song I kept having trouble getting the right rhythm tone and I was getting real desperate, because we were like done with all the other tracks and I still wasn't happy with the rhythm guitar sound. Just for an experiment, I ended up running a Les Paul through a halfway cocked wah pedal and we recorded the whole rhythm track for the song like that and that gave it the right kind of edge that it needed. And the solo was also done with a wah pedal."

**At the end of *Hammer And Nail*, when the Classical sounding licks are going, were you using both hands on the fretboard for that, like Jeff Watson's (Night Ranger) eight-finger technique?

"Yeah! That's like a double overhand technique that I've been working on for a couple of years. I actually got the idea from David Zaffiro. If you ask David, he'll fess up and tell you that he got it from some guy he knew in California. It's a really neat technique, because there's so many things that you can do with it. I've been trying to learn how to use it in the context of a song, like the solo on *Attention Please*. During the chord change where the first half of the solo is in Db, the last two bars of that section of the solo is that double overhand technique."

**Did you use it at the end of *Flashpoint* also?

"Right!"

**On *Because Of Jesus*, did you use your pick or fingers or both for the rhythm part?

"No, that was all with a pick. There's just an awesome amount of pull-offs there. It's not really all that hard to play. It started out as more of a lead line, you know, that I was messing around with and I said, 'Wow, this would be pretty wild to do a rhythm thing with.'"

**Even though Whitecross lost their original rhythm section, it is probably one of the tightest-sounding albums you guys have done. Did ya'll work with Rick (Cua) and Frank (Liva) before ya'll went into the studio or was it pretty much off the cuff?

"Frank was a friend of mine from when he drummed in *Fierce Heart*, which is the last group I was in before doing Whitecross, so I had known Frank and we stayed in touch over the last few years. When it came down to when Mark (Hedl) said that he was leaving I knew that... I never hesitated to go to Frank, because I knew that he would do an excellent job with the drumming. So we rehearsed for a couple of weeks and then Cua came in and the only thing he had to go on was a few four-track cassettes that I had sent to him. So he did the whole thing in like three days. I would say that Cua was a monster, because the guy's got a musical bag that runs about thirty years deep and he pulls so many licks out of the hat at the... he always had the right lick at the right time, not over played and not under played. He always created the right kind of groove with Frank to go with each song. And if the guitar sounds better on 'Triumphant Return,' some of that may be because of what Cua was doing underneath all of it."

**What about the opening line on *Attention Please* where you and Rick play that Sheehan/Vai-type lick? How long did it take ya'll to work that out or was it worked out before you two got into the studio?

"Are you talking about the sixteenth note thing?"

**Yep, that's the one.

"Well, there's a little story that goes with that, because Rick Armstrong was also in

the studio, and I might add that he cut the **Straight Through The Heart** track too, but he was just coming into the band at that point. So we had already made the determination that we were going to go with Cua. But when Cua got there and it was like Rick (Armstrong) had learned that one song, so Cua just said, 'Fine, you just do it, it's less of a work load for me.' So then we got to the track **Attention Please** and we were joking around in the studio. Because I was producing the sessions I wanted a chance for everyone to get involved and Cua had already said to me, 'You know, I don't think I can play that part on this song.' So what he did is he played the whole track without doing that lick and then I threw a twenty dollar bill on the console and I said, 'Okay, it's the battle of the Ricks now, whoever can play this lick comes up with a twenty dollar bill.' So I walked out of the room for about a half hour and I came back and there was Rick Armstrong plugged in doing the part. That was some fun times!"

On the song **Down that real clean guitar is not an acoustic, but rather an electric. What did you use to achieve that clean of a tone?

"That's an ADA MP-1 preamp, which I'm happy to be affiliated with as an endorsee."

**In the middle section of that song you've got the distorted lick going with kind of a clean tone echoing that lick. But then way in the background, in the beginning of the third measure, you hear a real staccato picked part. What's going on there?

"Ummm... it's not like any open string thing or anything, it's just the notes that you hear, two different tracks, harmonized with each other. It's just a nice little part that I heard when I was coming up with that section and I like it, because it adds to the track at that point. I will admit that it's a bit of a problem to try to reproduce all of that live. My attitude has always been, 'go for a great record first and then worry about how you're going to do it live.'"

How did you get the microphones to get that great acoustic sound on **Simple Man?

"Ummm... I don't remember. It was a guitar that the engineer owned and we brought it in and we just miked it up. The idea of that song, we didn't have the lyrics written, I just wanted to see what would happen if we filled all twenty-four tracks up with acoustic guitar, so that's what we did. They stopped after fourteen tracks and then we wrote the words to the song."

**We've seen electric guitar solos on all of Whitecross' albums so far, will we ever see a solo acoustic piece?

"I wouldn't rule it out. I'm not really an acoustic player, but that might be an interesting challenge sometime."

**On Whitecross' albums you always have a rhythm guitar part going, even under the solos. Do you find it hard to reproduce that kind of fullness live with only one guitar?

"Sometimes, but I'd say it's gotten a



L to R: Scott Wenzel, Rex Carroll, Mike Feighan, Butch Dillon

lot easier with the addition of the new rhythm section."

**Do you ever have the desire to have another guitar player up there on stage with you?

"Sometimes I wish we had a keyboard player or sampling or something like that. That's a possibility for the future, we may trigger some samples here and there."

**Do you stick to the recorded solos live, or do you go off on a tangent?

"I think it's equally both ways. There's a couple of solos that I like the way they came out on record, so I'll try to reproduce certain things live. Like on the solo for **Because Of Jesus**, it's got that little climbing lick at the end of the solo, I always try to do that. But there's other parts in the solo where I'll try to change it depending on what I'm thinking about that night."

**Are you still playing the famous "Mail Order Mutt" guitar?

"Yeah (laughs). Actually I haven't been using that for a while, but we're doing **Signs Of The End** again on this new tour, so I've brought it out for that song."

**So what's your main axe these days?

"Mainly I'm using the Zion Radica-ster guitar. Let me tell you, it's one awesome guitar! It's easily the best guitar I've ever owned!"

**What's your live setup these days? You running around with a Bradshaw rig yet, or what?

(Laughs) "That would be great! I'd love to do that, but we don't earn a lot of money in this type of music, so that's like the stuff dreams are made of. I run the ADA MP-1 preamp into an Ampeg head and I'm using an old Digitech delay unit. I'm hoping to add some effects over this summer. But basically it's an extremely simple setup. It's nice that the ADA gives you all the sounds in one unit, so you've got

that and you can really do a lot with that right there. It would be nice to have some more effects, but that's just going to have to wait a little bit."

**How does it feel to be voted "Best Guitarist of 1989" and "Best Guitarist of the 80's" by the fans in Heaven's Metal Magazine?

"Please clarify that. 'Favorite Guitar Player' I think was the wording."

**Okay, okay, favorite guitar player.

"I think if it was the best guitarist you'd have to call Mr. Keaggy and talk to him. But as far as that goes it was really great! Extremely gratifying, and it's nice to get that recognition. I would just say that it's a privilege to be able to do this for a living. There's a lot of talented guys that are out there and they don't have the opportunity to do this full time. I feel I've been extremely blessed!"

**Last question: What advice would you give to Christian metal guitarists just starting out?

"Try to determine what your calling is. Try to move from the big idea that, 'I'd like to be a Christian musician.' That's rather vague. Try to work into something in particular. Whereas you could say, 'I feel the calling to play in a Christian band locally and be useful in my area,' on a ministry level and just be willing to do what you can. As you are faithful in little things then the Lord will move you on to bigger things."

HM

Chris Elrod

Chris is a promoter in his area that rightly felt that some of the musical talents of our Christian artists are being overlooked. "While it is good to know about a particular artist's ministry and walk with God," Chris says, "some of us musicians would love to know how they played a certain thing on the record or what kind of equipment they use." Thus, the musician's angle of this article.

VENGEANCE CHANGING

By Doug Van Pelt

Roger Martin Photo by Herman Schulze



When the Fall of 1990 tour ended for Vengeance Rising, a giant toll was taken on the band members. The aftermath of these hardships and other factors led to a massive personnel change. The entire band (everyone besides vocalist Roger Martinez) decided to stop the Vengeance Rising train and get off. Martinez, a guitar player himself, will continue with the legacy of the band and keep going. The following interview will explain the change from four different perspectives (Doug Thieme wasn't to be found due to his busy schedule and preparation for his upcoming marriage).

****Mr. Martin, why did you decide to leave the band?**

"Personally," says the "Iron-Fisted" bassist, "I felt like the band was over, really. After the Fall tour 1990 motivation was like at an all-time low. Knowing we had an album to do in early 1991, we never rehearsed for the new album for a three-month period after the tour. I wanted to kind of veer off musically, to be free to do whatever kind of music I wanted to do, instead of just solid thrash. I wanted to be able to go and do anything. Financially I wanted to start new. It seemed like decisions for the band seemed harder and harder to deal with. For me, the band seemed to be a hassle and a burden, rather than the great joy it used to be in the past. My heart wasn't in it anymore."

****How did you feel about the whole thing?**

"I don't know," says Martin. "I just knew what I had to do personally. We were having meetings and the whole thing. I knew what I was going to do, and the other guys knew what they were going to do. I just felt the same. It wasn't a big shock or anything to me. I didn't feel any better or worse."

****What are your future plans?**

"That's hard to say," says Martin. "I'm still a bass player. My future plans are whatever happens. Whatever God sticks in my path, really. I don't have any major plans as far as a band is concerned. All I know is: I'm willing to play in certain instances. I don't think that I'm going to be able to tour, because I just had my second son. His name is Daniel. I could probably be in a band that doesn't have their brain on touring: 'We're gonna tour, tour, tour.' I can't really do that. J.D. is four now. When you're away from home so much it's...I don't know, I just don't feel like I'm being a good father, like I should be. Touring, to me, is for a single man. I'm not a single man. I'd like to do some local gigs or whatever. I'd like to do festivals and fly-out gigs. As far as gettin' on the road and going for three or four months, you know, it's like, I don't know if I wanna do that anymore."

****Larry Farkas, why did you decide to leave the band?**

"When we had a band meeting after

we got back from the road," says the guitarist with the maniacal face gestures, "I had some time with Bob (Beeman) to sit down and talk a little bit and kind of let him know what I've been up to and talk to him. The guys were saying, 'We need to have a meeting with Bob and find out some things because of some of the financial problems we faced being in debt.' I told 'em I had some time booked with Bob and we could just use that. Next thing I knew, the meeting was getting to the point to where it was like the end of the band. I was like, 'Wait a second! What are you guys doing here?'"

"With all the married guys and the kids and the touring, just not being able to provide very much, it was just very tough on 'em. I could understand that. The reason for me leaving was basically because Glen, Roger, and Doug left. It wasn't a deal where, 'Well I'm just gonna follow 'em,' but almost kinda that. Without Glen and Roger and Doug being in Vengeance... Nothing against Roger, like he's nothing of the band or anything--he's definitely the vocal part that was a representative. He wrote great lyrics and was a great frontman. We could never ask for more, but as far as the music part leaving, like I was telling Roger, 'I just can't be there.' It's not Vengeance. It's not the same band. I couldn't see myself getting up on stage with other people, whether I knew them or not. Here's these new members and...the songs aren't going to sound the same. It's not the same guys. Everything's going to change. It's going to be a different band."

"I said, 'Well, this thing is just over. The five members are the five members that it took to do this band I felt. There was a certain unity there to do it. Now that it was gone, I just felt it was best for me to go also. I wanted to stick with Glen no matter what happened. I was hoping that maybe Doug would still at least want to write songs, because I like the way Doug writes songs and working with him in writing and stuff. Him getting married and not having too much time and stuff right now. Once that meeting was over with, we said, 'Let's just take some time and go through it in our minds and then we'll get back and have another meeting and see what goes on.'"

"This was while Roger Martinez was in Australia producing that other band. He got back and it was like, final. 'We'll tell Roger when he gets back and we'll see about how we can take care of the debts. With the end of the band, we'll just have to do the merchandise amongst ourselves and just pay as much as we can to each person,' because we didn't just want to jump out of everything and just say, 'Oh well, you guys are dogged out. There's no more band, you don't get paid.' There was five members, and all five of us are responsible for the debt."

"Once Roger got back, he got hold of Martin, and Martin told him (in Larry's best Oklahoma accent), 'Hey mayun, it's over with.'"

"Roger was like, 'What?'"

"He said, 'Yeah, we had a couple of meetings,' and was explaining this and that to him."

CELEBRATION

A CELEBRATION
OF HIS LOVE

HEADBANGING
FOR TRUTH &
FREEDOM

TWO
GREAT
DAYS...

ONE LOW
PRICE!

METAL-FEST

BROOKLYN,
MICHIGAN

FRIDAY NITE, AUG. 9

AND A LOT MORE
MUSIC ALL DAY
SATURDAY, AUG. 10



Xalt



Bride



Seriah



Novella



Whitecross
SAT. ONLY

AND THE SATURDAY LINE-UP IS:

- Whiteheart
- Kim Boyce
- Whitecross
- Novella
- Jacobs Trouble
- Newsboy
- Jerome Olds
- E.T.W.
- Host:
Randy Matthews

Two Great Days! One Low Price! Plus Sunday morning worship service. A great camping and celebration experience. Bring your unsaved friends. Bring those who are hurting and starved for the truth. This is serious business... and a big party for His Glory!

Easy to reach location in Brooklyn, (south central) Michigan. And a Festival that's alive is surely worth the drive! No noise curfew at night. It's over when we've had enough!

Make camping reservation (\$8/night) direct to Juniper Hills Camping: 517-592-6803. Order gig tickets below. Sunday morning worship service open to all!

A Real
Party For
His Glory!

SPECIAL NOTICE:
"Novella" will be performing on Friday and Saturday.
"Whitecross" performs on Saturday only.
Celebration '91 was mainly a Saturday rock-fest originally and now thanks to Star Song Communications, we've added the METAL-FEST gig to Friday night! Thank God for Star Song & Pure Metal!!

2 Great Days:
1 Low Price!
August 9 & 10, 1991

WE SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF
COMPASSION
INTERNATIONAL

STAR SONG



SEND TO:
METAL-FEST
CELEBRATION '91
831 N. WEST AVE.
JACKSON, MI 49201

CAMPING
RESERVATIONS
517-592-6803
\$8/Night. Not in
Ticket. Order Separately

517-782-0192
CHARGE
BY PHONE



QTY:

YES!
PRAY HARD THEN HEADBAND A
VOLUME MUSIC. TWO DAYS. 11 BANDS.
HIGH VALUE. LOTS OF EXCELLENT HIGH
AND MAIL IT TODAY. \$13.00
EACH

Tickets Under 5 Free
Only \$13 Bucks
ORDER NOW!

\$15 AT
THE GATE

BY MAIL
Before July 1!

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE & ZIP

PLEASE PRINT OR SEE NO TICKETS!

"Roger was like, 'Hey, members can come and go, but the band is still gonna move on.'

"So Roger Martin goes, 'Well then, fine. For me and myself, I'm gone.'

"So then Roger called me and I told him the same thing. I said, 'Hey man, everyone's kinda...that's the way it is. Everybody's leaving, and I couldn't stay.' Glen told him the same thing, and Doug. So he was just on a thing of, well, he wanted to continue the band. He wanted to keep the name. He wanted to keep the contract and try to hook up with some other people and just keep pressing on.

"At first everybody didn't like the idea, because we thought, 'Let's just let it all rest.' But when he was saying he didn't care. He didn't mind taking on the debts. That he would release all four of us financially of the \$18,000 debt, of the contract, and all this kind of thing, and wanted to push on; so we said, 'Let's see what will happen legally.' So, as far as I know, Roger'll probably be doing the rest of the tracks himself, and Chris will probably just cut the drums. He says it's going pretty good. He's got tunes ready and stuff. That's good.

"That's pretty much it with everybody leaving. I knew Glen was gonna still play no matter what. I like working with Glen. I liked working with everybody. Musically I just felt, if these guys are going in this direction...even Roger Martin said, 'Hey, you ought to reconsider if you want stick with us, because we probably won't go very far.' I thought, 'Hey man, there's a chemistry here. That's why I'm going this way. I feel that we've been brought together, and there's a musical thing there with us. We can feed and grow off each other musically and work well together. Hopefully, Lord willing, we can do that.'

****What was the \$18,000 debt from?**

"Oh man. Some investors that invested money for merchandise; the godless trailer; the rental of the van that we had; just everything. We were running into so many trailer problems. We must have had a good 10 flat tires, easily, by the time we were done. The axle was jacked up. We lost a brake cylinder. We had wheel bearings go out. It was just the whole deal. It started leaking to where there was water getting inside the thing. We had some gigs getting cancelled, and tried to get other gigs to fill in for the whole deal of being able to send money home to pay the rent and car payments and things like that. We just did not make it...

"We asked Frontline if they would be able to provide us with any kind of tour support, and they said...you know, shake hands and say, 'See ya later. Thanks for going on the road for us.' There was something like \$7,000 for an ad in Metal Maniacs, Thrasher, and Thrash Metal Magazine. We had a full page color ad advertising the tour and the second record, which came out really nice. The only thing was, once we got everything to Frontline... Rog hooked them up probably with the contacts and this and that kind of thing. By the time they got everything hooked up and sent it

out to the magazines...dude, it didn't come out until the November issues! We were already off the road. They've got the tour schedule in the thing and we were already back. So that was kinda almost a joke. So, there's \$7,000. The trailer. I think we paid something like \$3,500 for that thing, in cash. It just started accumulating. We never got to the point to where we were able to pay too much stuff back. It was just like, 'Man, \$18,000 hanging overhead.'"

****How do you think the Vengeance fan feels, and what do you want to tell them?**

"This is the one thing... Because, I'm a Vengeance fan, you know what I mean? Not that I worship us or the band, but I appreciate what the Lord is doing with the band and where He has put the chance of ministry for the kids. Sanctuary gets tons of calls on the 800-lines about Vengeance. I felt bad when I found out. I felt like I was getting let down, kinda. I feel like the fan is gonna feel that way. 'Man, I'm getting let down.' They're behind us and they believed in us, and every Christian band ends up throwing the towel in after a year or two it seems like, and here we are, another one of those guys. It's just rough. You can't tour, because there's no support. You just can't. It's hard for a band to tour in the Christian industry.

"I don't want them to feel that they're let down by any means, because I feel that the Lord has given two records for ministry purposes, which really has nothing to do with Vengeance or the individuals. That's the Lord's glory and His doing. So those are two records right there that they can take to people for ministry use. They can say, 'Check this out,' and tell 'em about the Lord, and it's got great lyrics. It's still there. It's still just as powerful as it was when we were together. I don't want the fans to just say, 'Well, I got dogged out by these guys,' or whatever, because Roger plans to continue on it. And hopefully, you know, they'll still like what Roger's doing with Vengeance, and if we can continue and put something out, that they'll like that too. Because it's not that we're giving up. It's just changes of direction. Hopefully we'll both be able to push on and still put out a good ministry product. A good tool that they can still keep going forward with.

"That's something that I had to sit down and think about and realize, because I felt that way. I thought, 'Man, great! Thanks a lot!' We still wanna see those faces in concert. We still wanna go and be able to talk to people just like before. None of that has ever changed, man. That's deep down inside of us. We don't want that to change, because that is the sole purpose for us even doing it in the first place. We all want to be able to still do that.

"I sure love the people a lot out there. I really appreciated everything they have done to support us, and believing us, and being behind us. It's the fans man, that really give you the drive to want to continue on. If it's working for them to go to their friends and say, 'Hey man, check this out.' If we can still do that, let's keep going, because there's too many people out there that still need to get reached.

So hopefully we'll get to see those bright and shining faces. I just want them to know that they have something that they can use as a tool and still be supportive of Vengeance and us as individuals, and still to please pray for us all, because we can use it."

****Glen Mancarus, why did you decide to leave the band?**

"For me it was musical style," answers Glen. "I personally wanted to go in a different direction as far as musical style, and get out of the speed and go into more melodic. ...Still be heavy, but just go more melodic and kinda broaden out a little bit. I was feeling stifled. It was becoming more of a burden situation instead of a joyous type of thing. We were having fun at first. It was kind of getting mundane, and creativity seemed to lack. I think it was time for a change. That's pretty much it for me. Collectively, I think the whole band pretty much feels similar to that."

****What are your future plans?**

"Well, me and Larry have basically decided to work together. We really don't know what Doug's gonna do. We think he's gonna work with us together a little bit. I think me and Larry and Roger will probably work together. I don't know about Doug yet. I think he's going to do it. We'll try to find a vocalist that's kind of like still heavy, but somebody that can really, really sing. What Roger was doing was great for what we were doing, and when we first started... When God put this band together it was basically, 'This is what we wanna do, and this is the crowd we wanna hit,' and Roger was perfect. He is gonna continue. He wants to go more hardcore and that's great. That's where God is moving him. I think we just kinda grew apart a little bit. We wanted to broaden out a little bit, instead of doing the same ole kind of stuff. It was better for us as a band, instead of keeping the Vengeance name and changing the style, because then the hardcores are gonna go, 'Ahh, they're wimping out.' This way Vengeance can stay alive with Roger, and we can do our own thing under a different name and we wouldn't have that stigma: 'Okay, here's these guys. They're gonna be hardcore.' We don't wanna have that stigma. We don't wanna have that tag. We don't wanna be labeled in other words. We wanna play music and try to stay away from being labeled speed metal, heavy metal, whatever. We wanna try and develop our own style."

"I've got a lot of different riffs," adds Larry, "not even stuff that's even too much on the heavy hardcore edge, or the Bluesy stuff. Anything that I come up with that I kinda think has a hook in it, I tape it, no matter what it is."

"We'll still sound heavy," continues Glen, "cause we're not changing our sound of guitar and stuff like that. We'll probably add a little more of the Blues influence. We're gonna do the music that just comes out of our heads, you know. We're not saying to ourselves, 'Okay, we're gonna go after this crowd and boom, we're gonna play this kind of music.'

We're just gonna start writing, like we normally do, and whatever comes out, comes out. We might mix it up and be real versatile and put some real Bluesy stuff in there and some super, super heavy stuff. You know how bands were back in the 70's, where there really wasn't a format? Like Zeppelin. The perfect example. There really was no format. They wrote as they went along and as the years went on, whatever they were going through or felt, they started writing. I think that's what we're feeling. We're gonna play music that's off the top of our heads. If we use any of the speed stuff, we'll incorporate it into a song, instead of having a song going a hundred miles an hour straight through. Kind of using the speed in a song, like using it for a bridge or a lead or something. I think it's gonna be fun. Some of the stuff we've written sounds really good.

"This is not a put down, but it was like they were kind of limited to their writing abilities, because as far as being melodic, because when they wrote, they had to write thinking of Roger's vocals. It was okay for that music, but if they're writing for somebody who has a bigger range or whatever, they can be more melodic with their music, which will really help them out."

**It'll be interesting to see how the crowd responds.

"You know how crowds are. If you've got one member gone, they'll usually kind of frown upon it, like Barren Cross; but when the whole band's gone... it's kind of difficult sometimes."

**Roger, how did you feel when you got back from Australia and heard the news?

"Initially, the very first second, was kind of unexpected," says Martinez, "and, at the same time, there was a great excitement. Unexpected in the sense that to me it seemed like an abrupt and sudden thing; but at the same time I understood that I would now have the freedom to get things done. Meaning: had the band still been together, I doubt very seriously we would've been prepared even at this point to do an album, just because of the way that we worked pre-production on the first two albums. Now that I have the freedom to do this, things are happening much, much faster, which has given me the freedom to deal with it much more expediently. Initially it seemed very abrupt to me, but at the same time I saw all the good that could come out of it.

"I just know that the Lord's gonna use those guys in many different ways. I recognized and even that night pointed out to them how powerfully He had used them for this cause. People need to move on in life. Basically I recognized the fact that it was something that they individually needed to do. Roger had his second child on the way, Doug's getting married this year, and Glen wants to go in a completely different musical direction. I could understand those things. My heart and burden still remains for the thrash genre. I saw that it would allow me to pursue that further."

**What are your immediate future

plans?

"The album will be out shortly. There is a Vengeance album that will be out in May. It's definitely going to be a rippin' album. An immediate video will be taking place thereafter. Frontline plans on doing a professional video. Then, I'll be working on a tour. Presently I'm in the working capacity of making that happen. I've been working on some new people and the whole deal. It's really been coming along."

**Is everything real cool with the record company? Were they shocked?

"Well, they also saw the perspective that I saw. They saw the good that could come out of it. Even now, they're seeing it happen. They were very lenient as a whole in giving us five members way more extended time than they've given anybody, that I know of. They knew, because of the way they've seen me personally work, that I would be able to get things done, and by all means I have since the notice that I was given. They've been really pleased with the way I've handled it since day one, so they're behind me 100%."

**Any glimpses or a foretaste of what the album is going to be like?

"It's full-on ripping, man. Every song is just very, very intense. I'm sure it'll be my favorite album. I think those who are into thrash are just gonna be all over it. It's gonna be something that they're full-on into. It's something to definitely be looked forward to. They'll be things this time around that I'll have a control over in reference to production and things of that nature. It's definitely going to be wailing--and I do mean totally. (ha, ha!)"

**Anything else you'd like to tell the public?

"Basically, we definitely look forward to keeping in touch with them and maintaining the contact that we do have with the many, many thousands whom even as of yet write us. We really want them to definitely use

this album as a tool, as the last two have been, so too is this one. It's to be utilized for what it is, and that's an evangelistic tool. We really encourage them to make sure, not only do they pick it up, but get one or two copies for their friends. It's literally that important. Why we do have the tools available, let's use them. By all means, as I have in the past and will be in the future, I wanna be available as much as is possible to really get into specifics with people and for people as to issues and what have you and really see their ministry take off and grow, wherever the Lord has them right now. I just really wanna see this whole generation of believers full-on rise up as an intense force for Christ. If I can be a springboard for that taking place in anybody's life, may I be so.

"I'm writing a book. As soon as I get the album out, the book is the next issue and priority. It will be like an actual manual in their hands, a how-to of discipleship. That's what the book is called: The Importance of Soteriology and Discipleship. I hope that it will be out this year. It will be very down-to-earth. The title of the album will be 'Destruction Comes.' I just took the album cover artwork down there today, and I have to get a couple of people to okay it. I guess after the last two, they're wanting to make sure it didn't go too far overboard. It's really cool. It's pretty intense artwork."

**How is putting a new band together going?

"That chemistry that Larry talked about was very real. I see that point, and one of the things I'm doing in my auditioning is making sure that a chemistry can happen. If I can't meet or surpass that chemistry, then there won't be a new lineup. I simply won't do it if I can't match or surpass that chemistry. I won't go out with anything less than what we were."

Well, there's the story. The future will tell if Thieme, Martin, Farkas, and Mancaruso continue on with a band; meanwhile, Roger Martinez gives new meaning to the name Vengeance Rising. HM



Roger Martinez (Photo by Herman Schulze)

What? Queensryche Sez:

By Doug Van Pelt

L to R: Eddie Jackson, Scott Rockenfield, Chris DeGarmo, Geoff Tate, and Michael Wilton (Photo: Ross Halfin)



This issue our "What So & So Sez" column brings us in contact with Queensryche, a band that is currently bringing its talented blend of progressive music to millions of ears with the melodic strains of the hit *Silent Lucidity*. Read on and "overhear" the conversation I had with drummer Scott Rockenfield.

****First of all, I want to commend you guys on your morality and the intelligence in your lyrics. It definitely stands out, and is appreciated.**

"That's been the way we've always been. We've never really been the sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll type party band, ya know. We've always wanted to have a little bit more depth to our music and to what we're saying behind the music in terms of the lyrics...and give people a little bit more something to sink their teeth into than just your plain ole 'party, be happy' music."

****What are your feelings toward the typical "Rock 'n' Roll lifestyle?"**

"Um, to each his own, really. If that's what works for ya, that's fine. I think it's become a big stereotype where most people outside of the business being, like, fans and people not actually related to the business, they think that's what it always is: you know, partying and doing drugs. The typical stereotype. I guess there's a few out there that are like that, and that's where that stereotype comes from, because you always hear about that. You never really hear about people that do good or people that don't do that type of stuff that are in this business. Like I said, 'If that's what works for ya, then cool.'"

"We've always been very level-headed people and you know... There's so much of a business behind music these days that it only behooves you to keep your head

together and not do that type of stuff and try to understand what's going on and keep tabs on your whole business. It's your life that you're dealing with. Also, another thing about it is we don't like to do it because we go on the road and it's a very strenuous show. We're doing over two hours headlining. There's no time to be partying and whooping it up every night. Most of us are married, so the sex side of things only comes when you're at home. That's basically our feelings on that whole subject: If it works for ya, go for it. None of us do drugs or drink or anything like that."

****How did you get the killer drum sounds on "Empire" and "Mindcrime?"**

"Ooh," Scott replies (impressed at being asked the question), "A combination of a few things really. The actual drums itself. I play Tama drums exclusively. They make really quality stuff. It's the top of the line that I'm using, which is the Art Star II Limited, which are really nice. They sound really good. They're very open sounding. And a combination of how I play, and Jimbo, our engineer, who we've used. Jimbo Barton is the engineer and Peter Collins is our producer on both of those albums. Jimbo being behind the controls of where the sounds come from and how they go down on tape. I tell him what I want to sound like and he's in charge of turning that around and actually putting it down on to tape, which can be a task. It's one thing to be able to say what you want, but it's another thing to actually get it onto tape and be able to hear it. Us two sitting down and spending hours dialing it in. Tuning has a lot to do with it. You know, the way I tune my stuff. It's just kind of working over the years. It's taken about four years to get the sound like that, which is something I've always been after. I'm very happy with the sound I've gotten and what we've done."

****A lot of bands are ripping you off, which must be pretty flattering.**

"People used to say we ripped other people off. We've been around for ten years. A lot of people think we're the best new band or something, but we've been around for quite awhile. This is our fifth album we've put out. It's flattering to see other bands that are obviously influenced by us and wanting to sound like us, or maybe sound like Geoff (Tate) in terms of singing, or musically being more progressive and intricate. I guess everybody has their influences and where their backgrounds comes from. I think that we've been around long enough to where these new bands consider us to be one of their big influences. It's flattering, because we never really thought that it would ever happen to us when we first started out. I don't think anybody will ever be able to rip us off better than we can play ourselves, you know, because we have our own style. I don't think we sound like anybody really. I think we just kind of sound like Queensryche. If you sound too much like somebody else, you're not really going to go anywhere, because nobody wants to listen to the copy. They want the real thing."

****I pick up a couple of influences--just my own perceptions--of a little bit of Rush jamming, like in *Della Brown*; and Pink Floyd harmonies like during *Silent Lucidity*.**

"Actually those two bands have probably been some of our biggest influences, which is kind of an interesting combination. Neil Peart has been a major influence on me. He's pretty much the reason I ever started playing drums. I think it's an interesting combination to take the Floyd thing, which everybody's always been into, which is a very musical--which I guess is an aspect of both of those bands--and to kind of combine the two, which is what we've always kind of been into: progressive type stuff. 'Rush meets Pink Floyd' is how I describe our music to people who've never heard it before. That's cool. I'm glad you hear that. I take that as a compliment that we sound like those two bands."

****How does your current status of both critical and material success feel to you?**

"Great. I've got a nice big house I'm roaming through now. It's nice. Obviously monetarily that's the first thing people expect you to say, 'Money-wise it's great.' Everybody wants to make money, so I guess it's a nice thing to have a little dough in the bank. That's not the end-all. It's nice that we've worked for five years. We always win these polls as the 'most under-rated band of the year,' or the 'best new band.' We've been around, working really hard, just being true to ourselves and writing the music that we want to write. Nobody's ever told us what to do. 'You've gotta be more commercial. You've gotta do

this...' We've always just kind of stuck by our guns, and now our record has gone platinum. We haven't even started touring the States yet. So we still have a lot of legs. This album is just kicking butt. We're happy about it.

"People trust us in what we're doing and never given up on us, and we've never given up on ourselves, and it's happened. Now we're going out on our first headlining world tour, which is great. We've done a few shows here and there in the States, and we've headlined in Japan before, but now we're doing everything. We're doing the States with the biggest show we've ever taken out. It's a very intricate, complex show. It's nice that we've gotten to this level to do that. It just makes you work that much harder. Now it's like we can't stop. There's no lettin' up now, because once the ball rolls you've gotta keep pushin' it along."

**Are you familiar with the band Bloodgood?

"Yeah. I actually know a couple of guys in the band. The drummer, or former drummer--Mark Welling. I'm not sure if he's still in the band, but he used to be a real good friend of mine. He went to school with Chris and Michael from the band. I used to buy stuff from Bloodgood himself. Mike Bloodgood worked in a music store around here. I'm familiar with 'em."

**How do you feel about what they're doing?

"They're Christian rock, but I don't know anything else about the band. I haven't talked to anybody in the band for years. I've never actually heard them, so I couldn't comment on their music or anything like that. If they like what they're doing, if that's what they've always wanted to do, then that's great. More power to 'em. I've just never heard 'em. I don't know much about 'em."

**What does Jesus Christ personally mean to you?

"Wow. That's a good question. I'm not really a very religious person at all. I don't know much about Him, honestly. I don't believe in going to church. I don't believe in organized religion. I just believe in what I believe in, and I believe in myself. So I don't really know much about Him. I've read parts of the Bible, you know. I don't really want to get into my beliefs in religion really, because we could go back and forth with that forever. I do believe in what I believe in. If people believe in what He was and what he stood for, then that's great. That's good if it works for them, but it's not something that I believe in really. It's one of those things. Everybody's got their own opinion I guess. I just don't want to get a bunch of religion stuff printed in an article and have people start calling me and going, 'What are you talking about?'"

**Some people try to fit God into

their lives, and others try to fit their lives into God. Can you relate to like the difference between the two, and which side of the fence would you put yourself on?

"Man. I can relate to it. It's like what I said before. It's just whatever you believe in. Whatever works for you. If you wanna believe in God or you wanna have Him believe in you. It's like whatever works for the individual, and how he believes. Personally I don't think I fit into either one. I just kind of believe in myself, and it's gotten me this far, so. You know, I'm a good person. I don't do anything to hurt anybody. I've got good karma. That's good enough for me. Not that I believe that I was just put here by nothing and mankind was just planted here by nobody, but I just don't believe in organized religion, so it's hard to voice my opinion on things that deal with that."

**I noticed, like on "MindCrime" and stuff, you had some valid criticism for corruption in the pulpit in the name of God. Have you or the other guys in the band ever seen a valid representation of the church?

"Speaking in the good sense, or speaking in terms of what we were talking about, in terms of corruption in it?"

"I don't believe in organized religion...I believe in myself."

**Speaking in the good sense. I mean, have you ever seen a real "Organized religion" operate the way according to the ideals?

"According to the way it should be, so to speak?"

**Yeah.

"Oh yeah, definitely. There's good and bad out there. I think in anything that is done in the world, but definitely the good side. We weren't talking about the bad side like it's always like that, but we were kind of using the correlation between all the scandals that were happening, like the Bakkers and stuff like that, and how that effected all these tv evangelists that were more into dipping into your pockets than into... you know, there were some corrupt ones out there, and that's what we were just showing--that side of it. We've seen good. There's definitely more good than bad, I think, in terms of the religion and corrupt people like that. I think there's more good ones than bad ones. I don't think anyone in the band actually goes to church or anything on a regular basis, but... My fiance does. There's definitely no

complaints about where she goes. There's so many out there. I think the system in general, just overall, is way more good than bad. We just thought the bad was surfacing at the time we were doing the record, so we just in a satirical way showed it on the album and integrated it into the story that we were doing. We don't believe that everything is bad out there at all."

**In the song *Silent Lucidity* I picked up traces of--I don't know if I'm right or not, but--channeling or tapping into a spirit guide, that will direct a person inside their mind. I know you didn't write the song, but is there any validity to my guess?

"Yeah, I guess, in a way. The song is basically based around lucid dreaming. Chris (DeGarmo) was reading this book before we wrote that song. The book was based on how to control your dreams and how a lot of things in life are based around dreams you have. Like, you'll have a dream sometimes and, in an indirect way, it may occur in the future or something that's tied to that...or something that you were thinking about a week ago that was in your mind--you'll have a dream about it. So, there are ways. This book was saying that there's ways to control that and learn how you're dreaming, and whenever you wake up at night write down next to your bedside on a piece of paper what your dreams were about and tally 'em up over a week and see a pattern. You can find patterns that happen in certain things you dream about. Chris was doing this, and in doing that was inspired to write a song about it. Some of the fly-in stuff, the voices that are flying in during the solo part is stuff saying things about controlling your dreams and how that can help focus your life. So, I guess in a way it is... It could be what you're talking about, a channelling type thing. Finding a direction to go in. There's so many ways you could interpret it. A lot of people see it in a different light. I've never thought about it the way you did, so I guess it's very possible."

**It's a pretty interesting subject. It's kind of neat to keep track of what you're dreaming and stuff. Have you ever read about or investigated what is commonly called "The New Age Movement?"

"Well, my favorite form of music--all I listen to--is New Age Music. The actual movement itself I've never really followed. I don't really know much about it. New Age Music to me is just a title of the type of music I like, but I don't really call it New Age Music. I call it Movie Score sounding type stuff. Stuff that is very moody and very atmospheric. I don't really know much about it though. I know there's magazines based around it and stuff and all that."

**Yeah, the musical thing called "New Age" is kind of real different than the movement. The movement's kinda basically old-fashioned witchcraft, saying that you are God and you have the divine nature within you.

It's kind of ways to...you know channeling, and like the Wicca religion...the female witches and stuff, how everything is God and you're a part of God. Tapping into all that is kind of the core of the movement. Thinking that everybody has the potential in them to become God and trying to evolve the human race to that point--thinking that that solves everything.

"Right, right. I wonder why they call it New Age Music then. Is that like the music that you listen to in the background why you're doing all this?"

**That's probably how it started, because it's good meditative music. You can sit there and meditate.

"Exactly. It's very atmospheric. It kind of puts you to sleep."

**I wanted to comment a little bit about... Heaven's Metal is a Christian heavy metal magazine. It basically covers what's going on with the Christian metal bands, but I like to do interviews with bands that aren't, like, doing stuff like this; just to kind of get where they're coming from and stuff. I wanted to share something with you about... You kind of answered one of the questions I had, which was "Have you ever investigated the claims of Christ?" I guess I'll go ahead and ask you again.

"Like through reading the Bible and stuff like that?"

**Yeah.

"I have a little bit. I haven't really sat down and focused myself and tried to find out everything about it. I've read a little bit of the Bible when I was younger. I've heard what people had to say about it. I know some friends who are very religious and stuff, and whenever I see 'em they tend to get into it and want to tell me about it and stuff. It sounds valid--what He was all about. Who He was. It's not something that I believe in myself. Like I said before, I guess my beliefs are: I believe in myself, and I don't really believe in organized religion, you know, like going to church and stuff like that, but I'm not totally against it. I don't think it's a bad thing. Some people want to go to concerts and some don't, so it's a belief in doing whatever you believe in, and everyone's got their own opinions, so. I've never really sat down and researched, though, the claims of Him. Maybe I should."

**If I can, I'll point ya in a concise place to really look at it. In the book of John, chapters 8, 9, and 10. It's really a good synopsis where He's claiming to be God in the flesh to His fellow Jewish leaders, and they all know what He's talking about and try to kill Him right there. Then, later on in the book of John--I won't give you all these references, but it's John 14:6--He claims to be the only way to the Father, the only way to eternal life. In another part of the Bible He talks about each

person is either for Him or against Him. So, He basically made these claims over who He was, and then He said, "This is the way it is, and you're either for Me or against Me," and He talks about what happens when you're against Him, and everybody knows about that."

"Right."

**I don't want to hassle you about all this, but I just simply wanted to challenge you with the truth and kind of point you in the direction, cause I feel that you're important because you're a human being and you deserve the chance to be offered to look up and here this message.

"Sure. Thanks for pointing out that book. Maybe I'll have to check it out."

**You bet. It's one of my favorite parts, because it's very intense interaction between Him and the Pharisees. It's just like going back and forth and He gets 'em to the point where they're basically chomping at the bit waiting to kill Him.

"Right. Well cool."

**Well, I appreciate your time.

"Yeah, Doug, thanks for your time. I've never had a chance to do anything with a magazine like this, so it's good. I'm glad that we were picked as a band to...we're not a Christian rock band so to speak, but picked to do something in your magazine. I think it's good for both sides of that type... Instead of just focusing on Christian rock bands or us not wanting to talk to magazines like that. It's all open, so it's cool that we have a chance to talk. I think it gets a lot of things out in the open, that people don't really understand about both of us, which is good, really good. When our show rolls through Texas, if you get a chance, get ahold of the record company or whatever. I'm sure they'll swing you some passes. Come out to the show. You can hang out. You can check out the show, and we can talk afterwards."

**That would be great. I'm looking forward to that. HM



(If there's no number listed, call MasterRock Artist Agency at 305-341-5444.)

BELIEVER

5/23 - 6/3 Stutensee Germany
8/7 Albuquerque NM
8/9 San Diego CA
8/10 San Bernadino CA

CRYSTAVOX

8/31 Minneapolis MN
9/14 Oklahoma City OK
9/28 Corpus Christi TX
ETW

6/14 Clearwater FL
JET CIRCUS

7/8 Evansville IN
7/9 Grand Rapids MI
7/11 Rochester NY
7/13 Mooresville NC
7/19 Tampa FL
7/25 Topeka KS
7/26 Minneapolis MN

MAD AT THE WORLD

6/29 Alascadero CA
SFC

6/7 Las Vegas NV
6/29 Lancaster PA
7/27 Everett WA
9/21 Santa Barbara CA

SACRAMENT

6/28 St. Petersburg FL
6/29 Coral Springs FL

CRUCIFIED

6/28 Albuquerque NM
6/29 El Paso TX
7/1 Midland TX
7/8 Ft. Wayne IN
7/9 Portage WI
7/12 Bartlesville OK
7/27 San Jose CA

WHITECROSS

6/1 Wassau WI
6/7 Euleess TX
6/8 Euleess TX
6/18 Boiling Springs NC 704-434-6280
6/28 Lancaster PA
7/27 Evansville IN
8/2 Millersville MD
8/3 Catskill NY
8/23 Darien Lake NY
9/14 Oklahoma City OK
9/16 Albuquerque NM

SHADOW WINGS

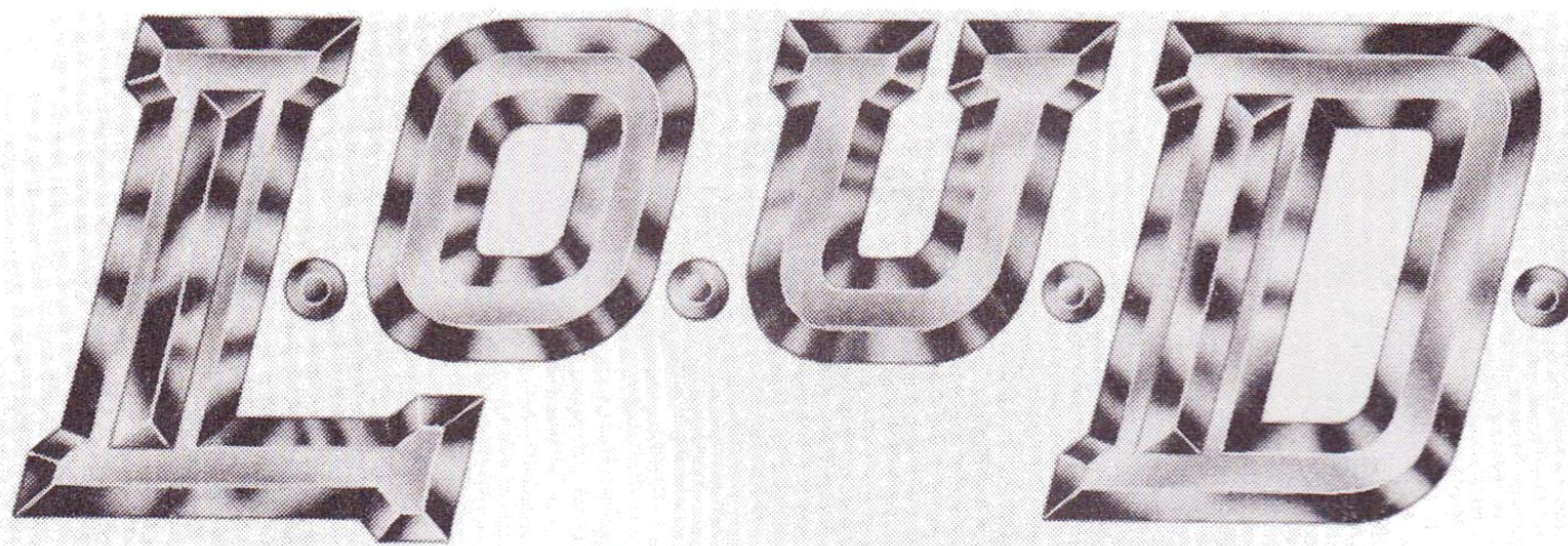
6/1 North Branch MN 612-521-4904
6/8 Ft. Wayne IN
6/22 Waukegan IL
6/29 Minneapolis MN 612-521-4904

SERAIAH

6/1 Cranston RI
6/3 Virginia Bch VA 804-498-3780
6/5 Spartanburgh SC 803-873-6894
6/6 Charleston SC 803-873-6894
6/7 Millersville MD 301-553-0828
6/8 Fredericksburg VA 305-341-5444
6/12 Fredericksburg VA 704-846-6259
6/14 Dover DE 302-734-3202
6/15 Mooresville NC 704-938-3854

DELIVERANCE

6/7 Cleveland OH 216-655-4826
6/8 Colombus OH 614-861-7621
6/29 Escondido CA 619-480-1230



Stand On The Rock



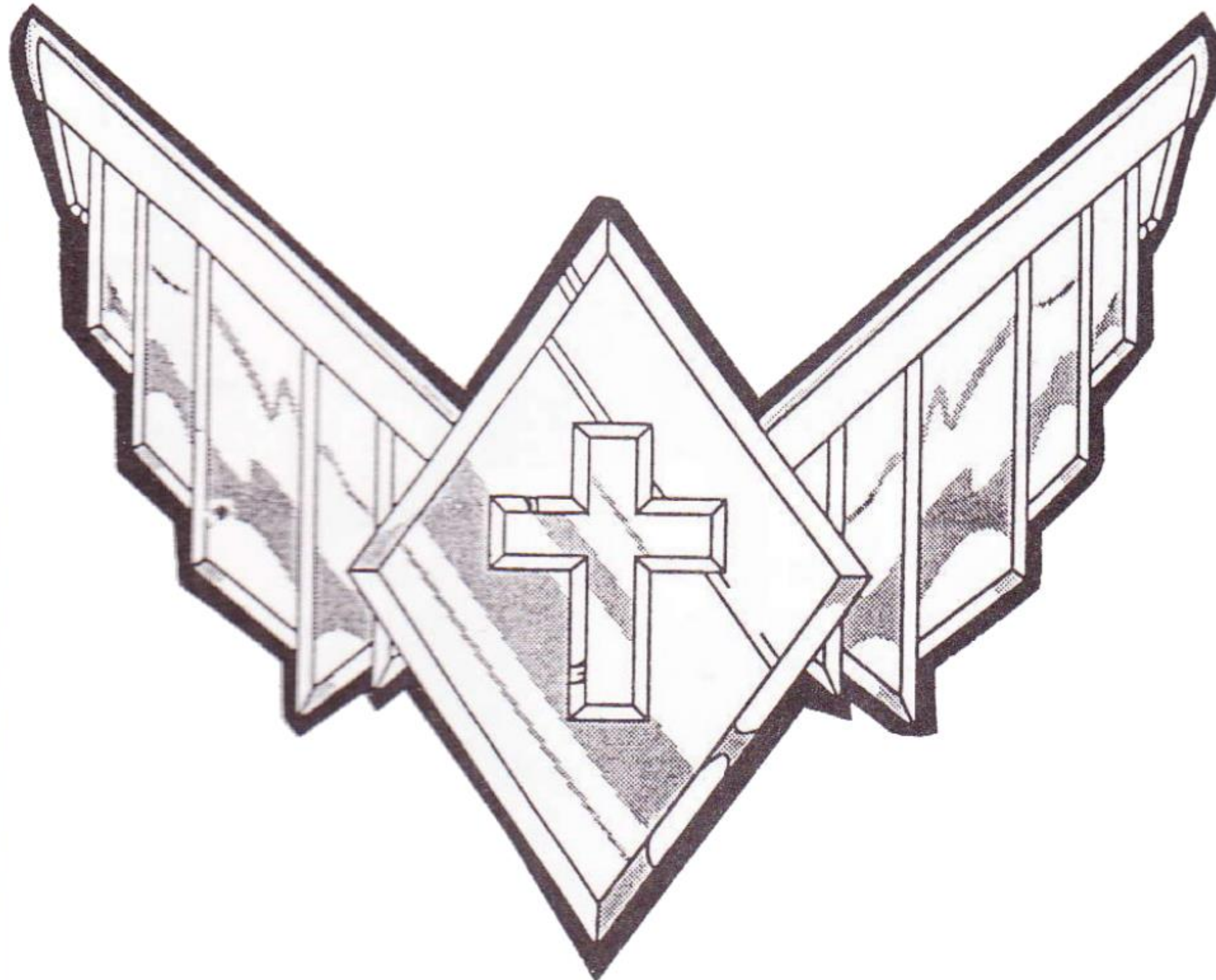
*Playing all across the United States, opening for such acts as **Kiss**, **Scorpions**, **Quiet Riot** didn't fill the void in their lives.*

L.O.U.D. is a group of bold young men for Christ who in their music unashamedly preach Jesus. They not only sing the uncompromised word of God but they also live it. This combination continues to harvest many souls. I highly recommend L.O.U.D.

*Evangelist Brad Tuttle
Former Member Power Team*

Hear the testimony, witness the change in their lives for yourself.

IT'S A SOLID ROCK REVIVAL!!



True happiness and joy was found when they dropped on their knees and made Jesus Christ "Lord of all".

L. O. U. D.
Love Obedience Unity Devotion



Drugs, alcohol, sex wasn't where the answer lied.

When we heard the tape for the first time it stayed in our tape player for days. We liked the old hymns redone. We listen to them over and over.

*Scott Wenzel
White Cross*

STAND ON THE ROCK SONG LISTING:

**FOLLOW HIM
SIX FEET WIDE
IN THE GARDEN
I OWE YOU PRAISE
THE ROCK ROLLED
AMAZING GRACE
HOLY-HOLY-LORD
WEALTH OF YOUR LOVE
STAND ON THE ROCK**

FOR BOOKINGS OR TAPE (\$10.00)

Call: (513) 539-9954 or

Write: **LOUD Missionary Ministry**

P.O. Box 337

Middletown, Ohio 45042

"We want to reach souls"

*Will travel anywhere for
travel expenses & Love Offerings*

**Concerts
Praise Worship Services
Youth Sanctuary Services
Youth Rallies
Festivals**

Also Available
T-Shirts - Dog Tags

FOURTH ESTATE: High-Fivin' Finesse And Fury

By Steve Schmutz

All Photos: DEAN DERAAD



Only once in a very great while are the established boundaries of music challenged with such bravado and inspiration as they are with the heady and hard-driving arrival of Colorado-based Fourth Estate. This power trio exploits some of the greatest abilities in musical prowess, and it delivers this stunning excellence with high-volume confidence and authority, and in what recent critics define as "massive, diverse, and eclectic... a tapestry of exacting technique and emotion."

Officially formed in 1987, the band was later to select its current name, Fourth Estate, defined conceptually as, "a group of individuals outside normal governing powers, demonstrating an influence over people." Though, at its beginning, the group's individual members, Dave Beegle (guitar), Jim Iltis (drums), and Fred Babich (bass) were exploring various avenues of musical performance, the three friends found their occasional forays into instrumental rock passionately embraced by audiences. Realizing their inherent desire to express themselves in their own unique way, and not succumb as another statistic in favor of "formula rock," the band has since bravely forged new territories, and now find themselves thriving in the tasty expressions of progressive, instrumental rock.

The band's music is truly a rare blend, skillfully interweaving elements of Rock, Jazz, Metal, Fusion, Blues, Classical, and Funk. In contrast to the vast majority of modern rock, which offers a few layers of repetitive sounds that support a limited selection of moving parts, Fourth Estate cultivates a musical character that sees each element of the composition to be entirely as important as the next. Babich explains, "All of the instruments, as well as the composition, mood, and melody, are interfaced together in our music. It is a total marriage of sound. If any part is removed, it's like cutting off an arm or a leg; the entire structure is rendered a crippling blow."

The band's intellectual and instrumental approach however does not mean that their musical delivery is stuffy or anemic.

Quite the opposite is true! Those who are privileged enough to see Fourth Estate live, are witness to the pursuit of excellence in musicianship, convincingly attired in some of the flashiest, most bombastic, most creative displays of sheer talent seen. Their unpredictable and searing performances are delivered in breath-taking, explosive, and stimulating Rock-Metal personality. The group sees its instrumental approach as a plus, and Beegle elaborates on this, "We believe it is to our benefit that we do not have vocals. It is often the case that a band's vocals acquire excessive attention and emphasis, frequently to the unfortunate compromise of the actual music itself. As Fourth Estate does not incorporate that vocal element, we find we must develop greater latitude and emphasis to that which remains. Consequently, our music has true substance; it must stand on its own and still gain the proper appreciation."

The individual members of this band stand among the elite in regards to talent and ability. Each of them individually, and together as a band, have received high acclaim by numerous critics, and have been specifically addressed by such worthy publications as Musician Magazine, Guitar Player, and Guitar For The Practicing Musician. Though each member is capable of mentorship in their respective musical pursuits, they speak of each other in glowing tones of respect and wonder. Of Beegle, drummer Iltis is quick to expound, "Dave is well-deserving of any attention he gets; his sheer and amazing talent is so rare. He displays an almost perfect blend of ability, versatility, and emotion. He's a most passionate guitarist that takes any idea and adds to it music and emotion. Without a question, Dave is going to be one of the all-time greats." Iltis continues, now about Fred Babich, bassist. "He simply has to be the most off-the-wall, individualistic bass player ever. He's literally an orchestra trapped inside a bass player's body. He takes a lot of unusual ideas and musically incorporates them. He's a total personality player, and a lot of the band's sound is due to his effective input. He

stretches his instrument totally, and in any given song he may act as percussion or lead and rhythm guitar. He's like a one-man bass band." Dave and Fred practically trip over each other in their mutual admiration and respect for Jim Iltis, Fourth Estate's drummer extraordinaire. Says Babich, "Jim's easily the most gifted guy in the bunch; he's so advanced musically that he easily gets bored. He is very skilled at a lot of instruments, including bass, guitar, and keys. It would be a modest assumption to call Jim a veritable genius." Dave agrees, "He's a very musical drummer; he's able to achieve notation with the skins. Undoubtedly Jim instills a critical element to this group; a lot of people have recognized Fourth Estate for its drum sound."

The most extraordinary and stunning talents and music of Fourth Estate will be dished out in unbridled finesse and fury this summer as the band plays a full evening performance at Cornerstone '91. As the Cornerstone festivals continue to lead in the acquisition and promotion of the new, unusual, and loud bands and artists, Fourth Estate will share its exciting excursions into hard-driving musical brilliance with an audience that will surely wither delightedly under the intensity, mastery, and authority of the band's artform.

Fourth Estate is most assuredly a study in future success. Already, major labels and people are becoming a part of the picture. Until that first CD becomes reality however, the band has three excellent self-releases, the self-titled initial one, and the subsequent "Edge Of The Shaddow," and "In Phase." They are offering these tapes for a remarkable deal, and orders can be made as follows: first release (\$5), "Edge Of The Shaddow" (\$6), and "In Phase" (\$5). All three can be purchased for a deal of only \$14, and any single or combination order should also include \$2 for shipping and handling purposes. Orders can be sent to the band at: 427 W. 5th St, Loveland CO 80537. HM

News Brief:

Dave Beegle, guitarist extraordinaire of Fourth Estate, is tentatively scheduled to perform a guitar clinic at Cornerstone '91, featuring the newly-patented guitar technology from TransPerformance Company. The actual guitar, which otherwise resembles a usual model, allows the performer instant access to greater than 100,000 altered tunings. Beegle, one of the company's artists/consultants, reports that the new guitar has already gained the attention of such guitar greats as Jimmy Page, Adrian Belew, Eddie Van Halen, and Eric Johnson.

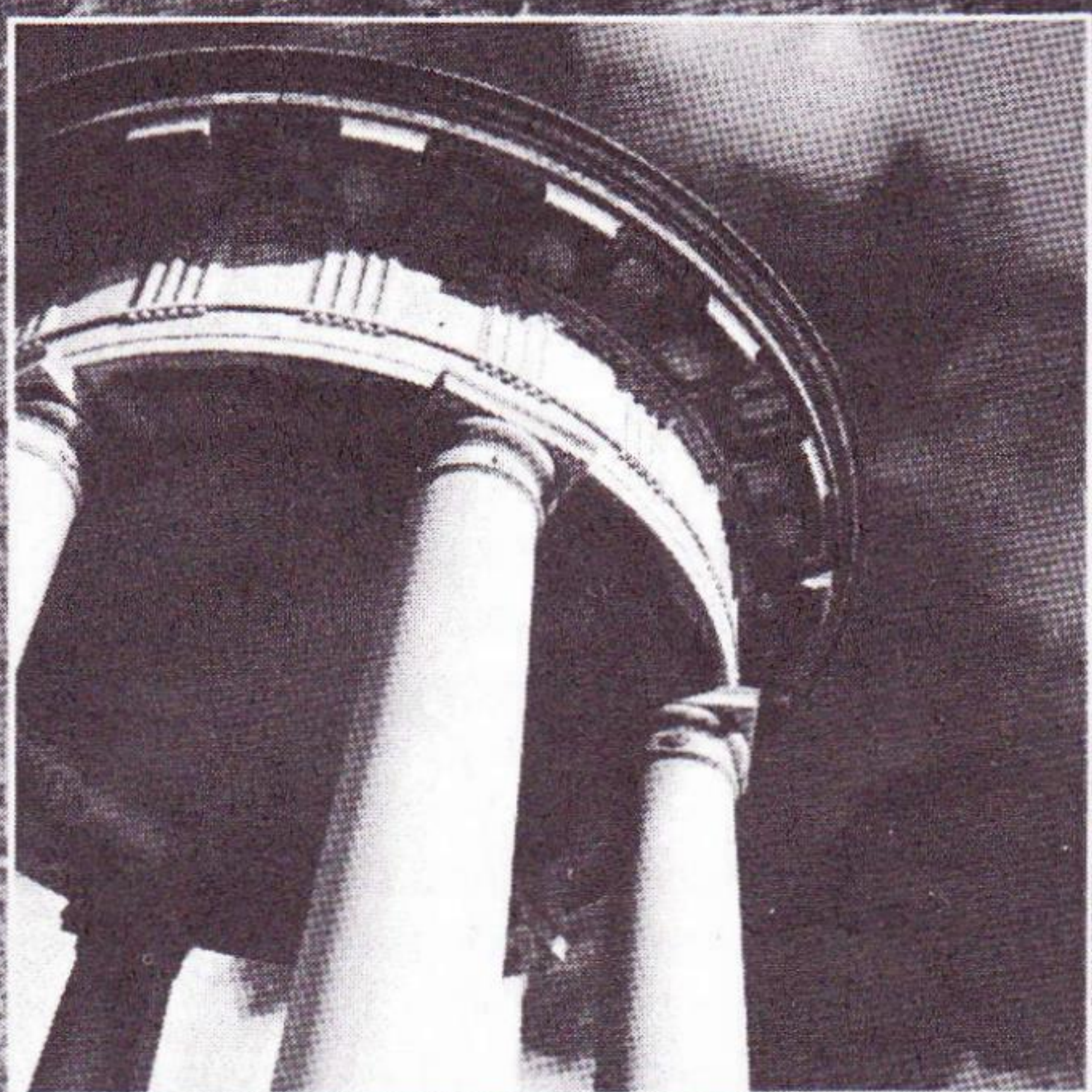
FIGHTER

The Waiting

**Music That Fills
More Than A Room...**



FIGHTER



The Waiting

Featuring guitar wizard Biff Heller (formerly with Dave Ellefson of MEGADETH), *FIGHTER* is the next big success story.

Don't miss FIGHTER on tour this summer with JET CIRCUS and this fall with WHITECROSS!

WONDERLAND

The Waiting Is Over.

OVERDRIVE

P
O
W
E
R

M
E
T
A
L



THEY'RE STILL TALKING....

-
- ⇒ THIS IS ONE OF THE BEST DEMOS I'VE HEARD IN A LONG TIME. THEY SMOKE! THEY WHIP THROUGH SONG AFTER SONG. THE BUZZ IS THAT THE HOTTEST NEW BANDS OUT INCLUDE...OVERDRIVE!
PHIL POWELL / CEPHAS

 - ⇒ TERRIFIC DEMO! THESE GUYS ARE TIGHT, THEY ROCK, THEY LOVE THE LORD AND WANT TO SEE PEOPLE GET SAVED. GET THIS AWESOME DISPLAY OF CHALLENGE AND CONVICTION - YOU GOTTA HEAR IT!
KEITH DAY / GOSPEL METAL

 - ⇒ THIS FIVE MAN POWER METAL BAND HITS IT HARD AND HEAVY...MUSIC IS TIGHT...GOOD SONG WRITING ABILITY...LYRICALLY BOLD THROUGHOUT...AMONG THE SLEW OF DEMOS RECEIVED, THIS ONE SHINES OUT AND GETS PLAYED OFTEN.
JEFF McCORMACK / PENDRAGON

 - ⇒ SMOKING HOT! LIGHT ATTACK RECORDS

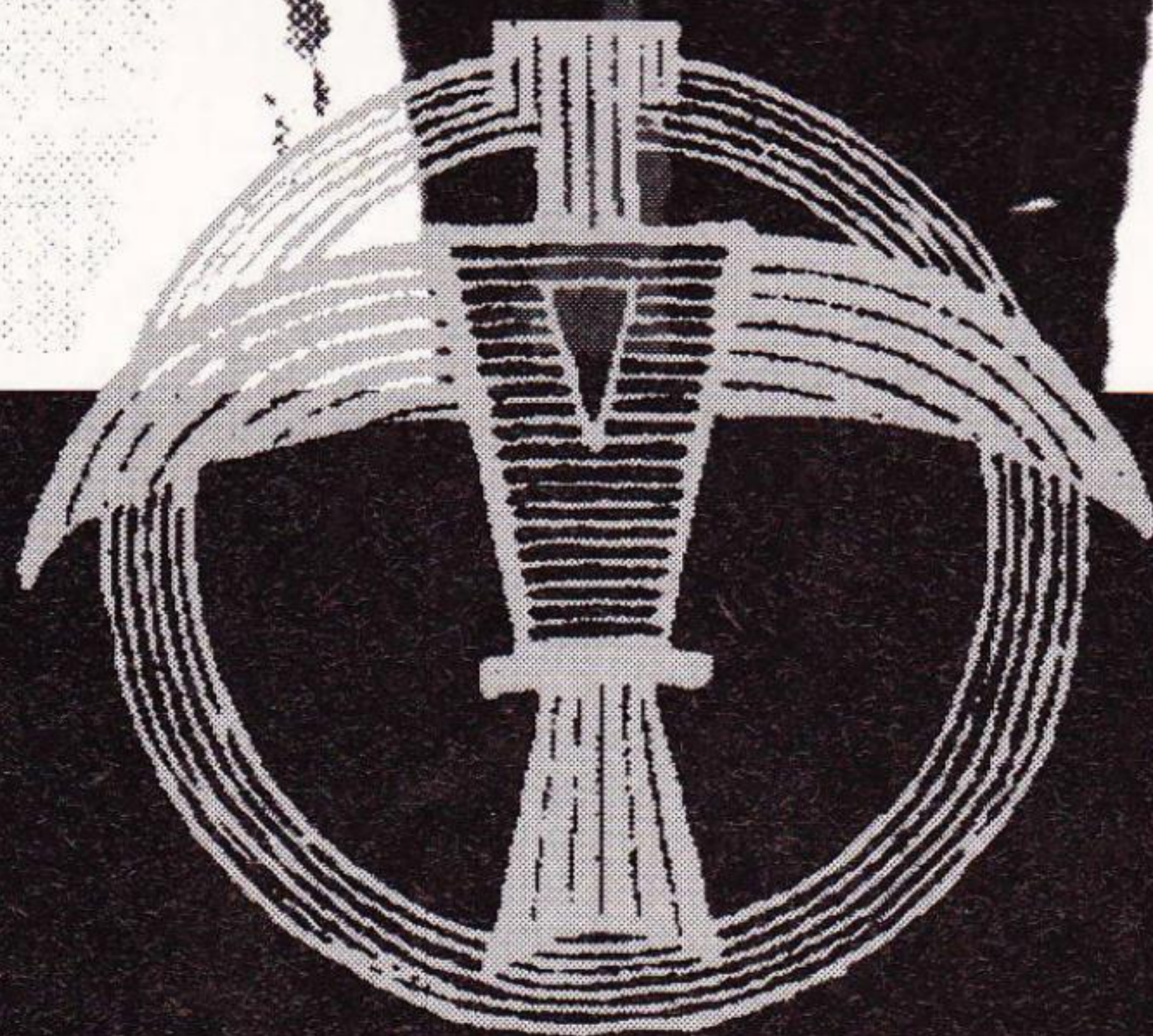
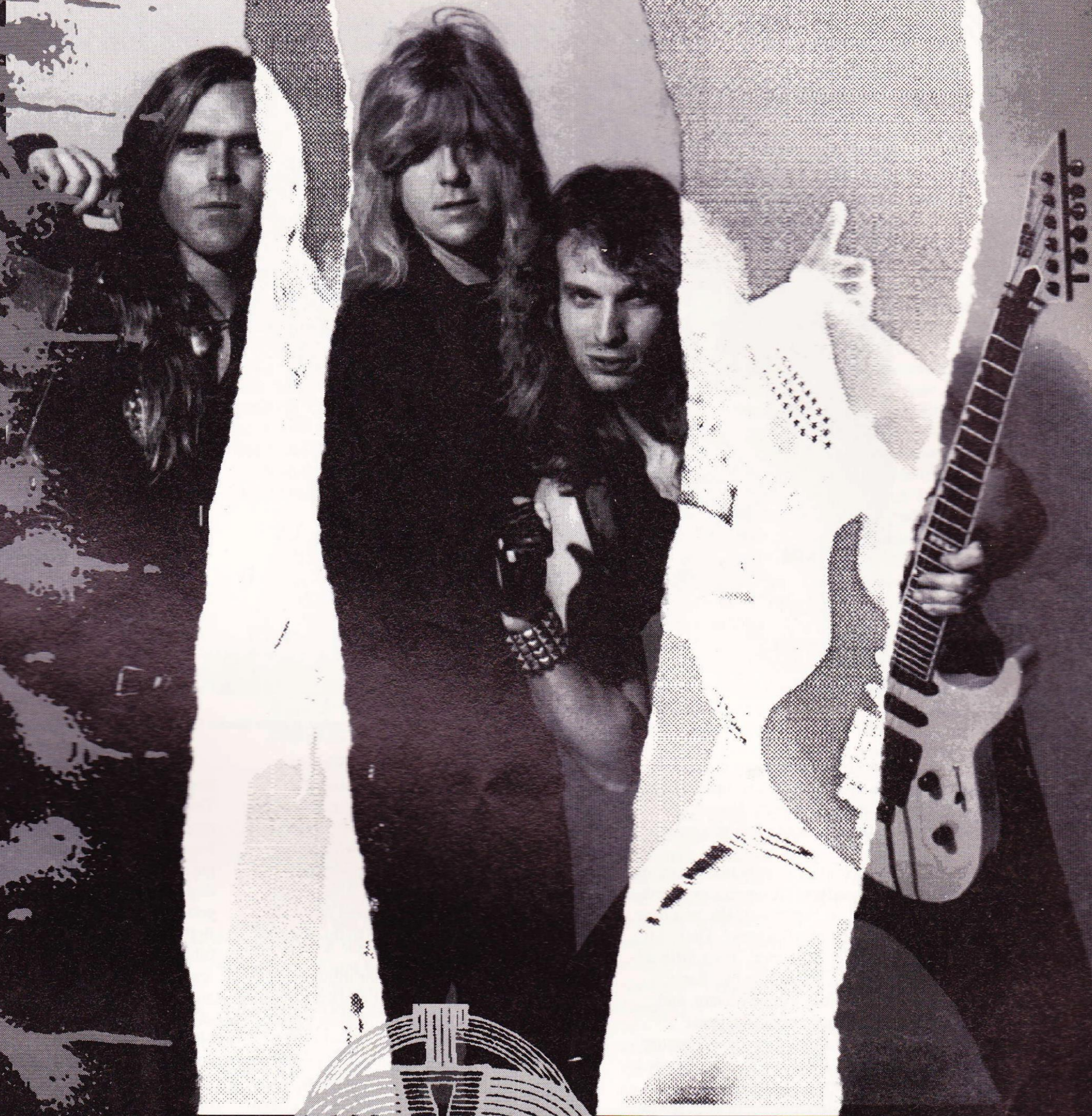
 - ⇒ BANDS LIKE YOURS, WHO ARE SINCERE AND SERIOUS ABOUT MINISTRY, ARE ANSWERS TO MY PRAYERS.
GLENN KISER / REZ (Speaking About OVERDRIVE)
-

FEATURING: LIVING SACRIFICE MARK MY WORDS AND THE ANTHEM CRUSADE

COMING SOON! THE NEW 4-SONG EP BY OVERDRIVE! WATCH FOR IT IN EARLY '91!

CASSETTES \$8.00 (MAKE CHECKS AND MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO OVERDRIVE), T-SHIRTS \$10.00. FOR MERCHANDISE, NEWSLETTER, BOOKING, AND CONCERT INFORMATION - WRITE OVERDRIVE, P.O. BOX 11153, BLACKSBURG, VA 24060 OR CALL DOUG AT 703-639-1174, JIM AT 703-953-1487.

POWER FOR THE PEOPLE...



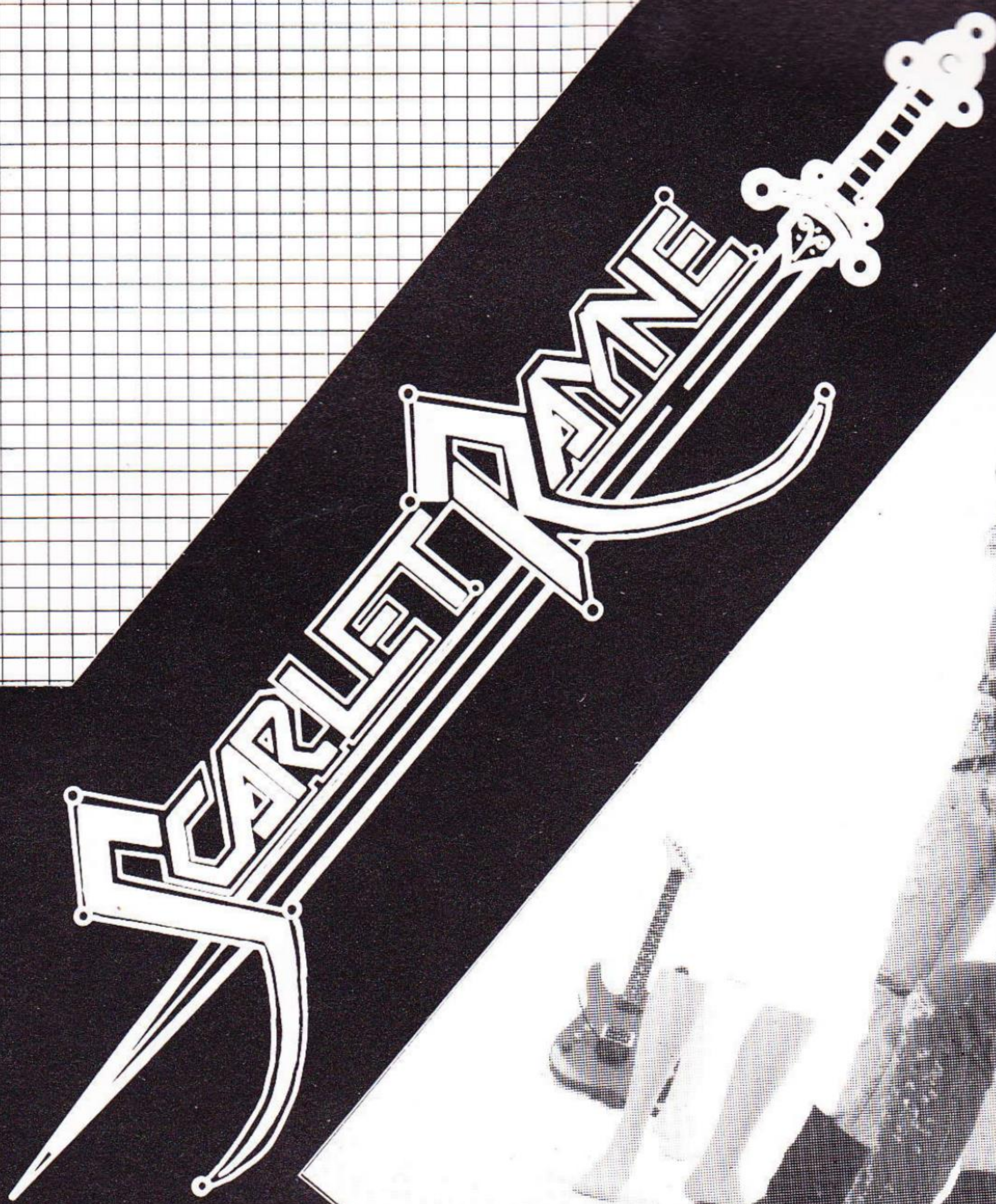
PEACE TREATY

PRODUCED BY
IDINO & JOHNI
ELEFANTE

...raw and to the point...the X-CITING follow-up release
from 1990's "BEST NEW BAND OF THE YEAR!!!"



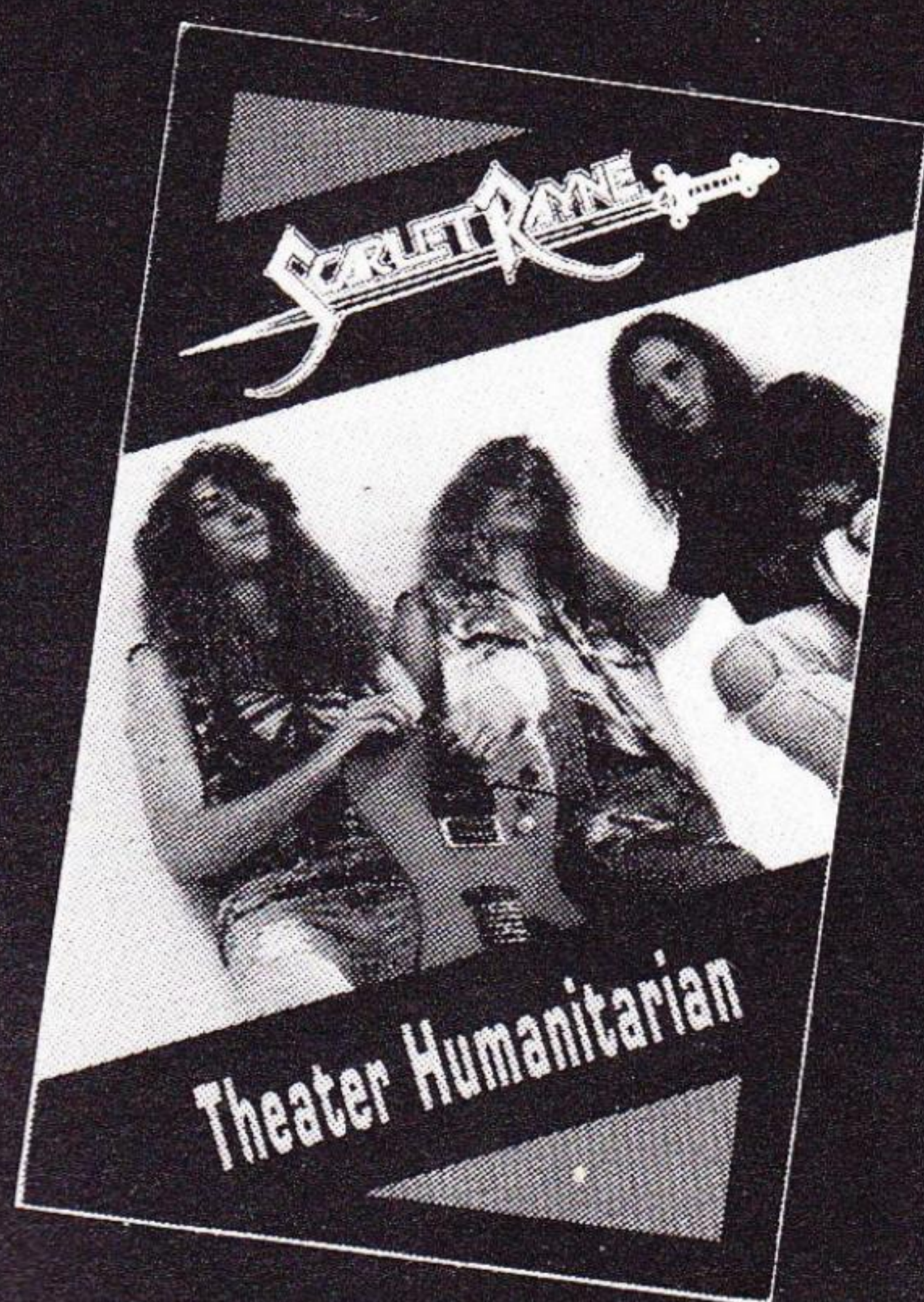
Available now on PAKADERM Records through WORD Distribution



This is Cerebral Metal at
its finest! **-Cutting Edge**
Mark Carpenter

This is a must-have buy!
THESE GUYS ROCK! I love this tape!
-Heaven's Metal
Doug V. Pelt

The music is top-notch! I highly recommend this tape!
-The Pendragon



Available through Spring Arbor Distribution.
Cassette #0001390627. C.D. #001390805.

Or send \$8.98/Cassette or \$12.98/C.D. to:

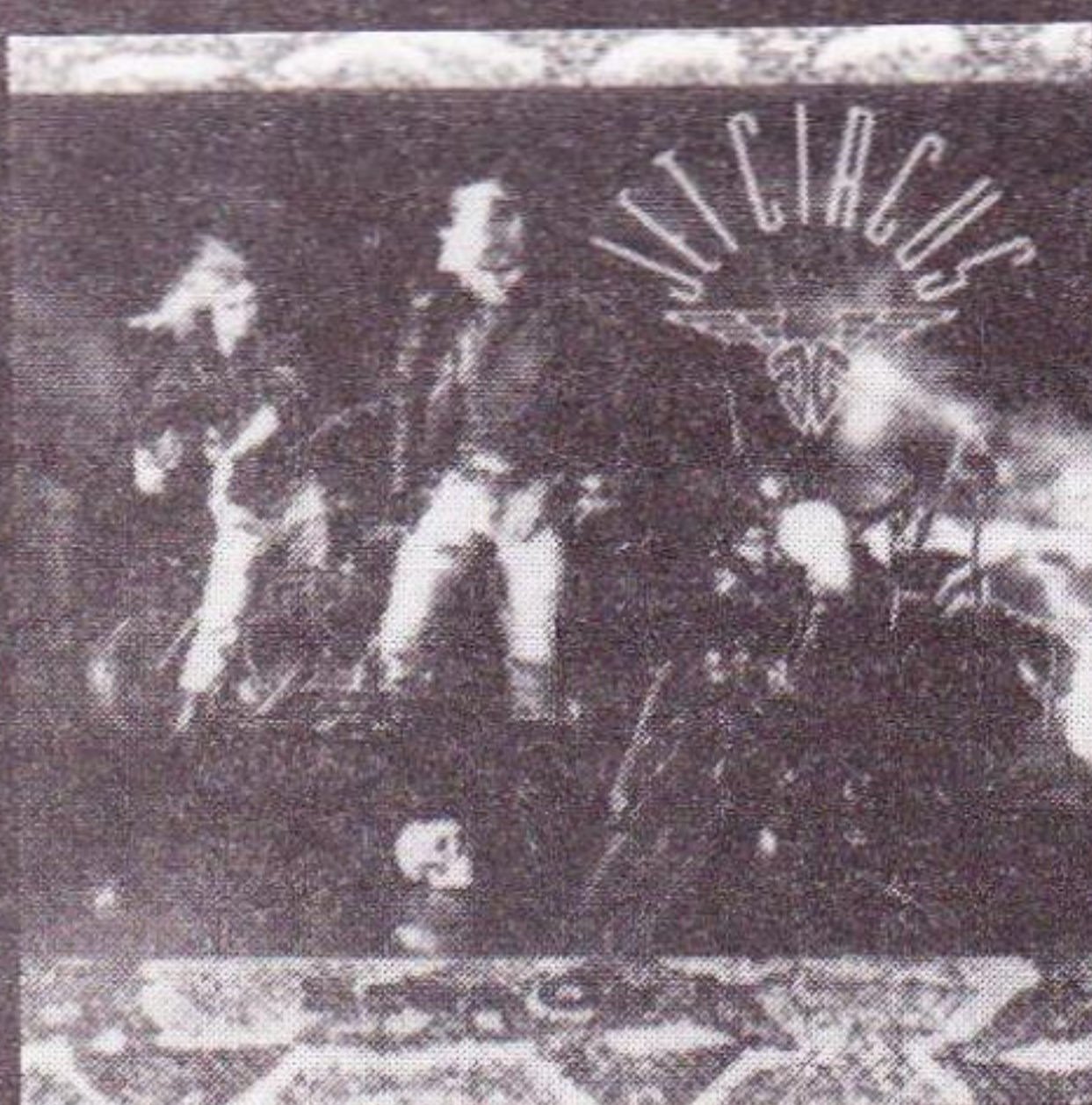
KISS PRODUCTIONS
W250 S4461 Center Road
Waukesha, WI 53186

414-542-4657



THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THOSE WHO CAN HEAR IT COMING!

JET CIRCUS STEP ON IT



The Most Creative Release In
Christian Metal!

- Doug Van Pelt
Publisher, Heaven's Metal

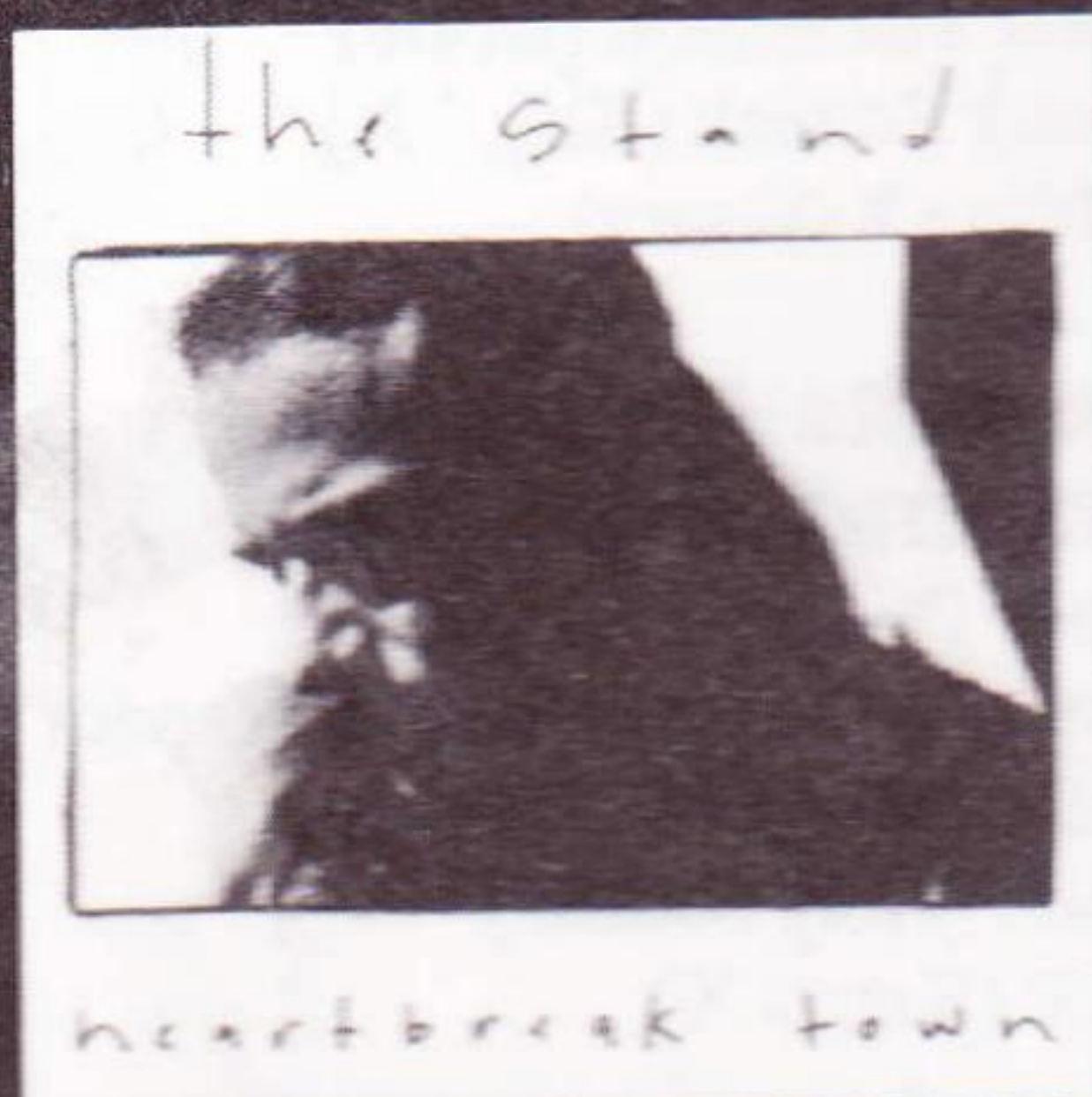
JET CIRCUS TOUR DATES

7/6 Cornerstone Festival,
Bushnell, IL
7/8 Evansville, IN
7/9 Hastings, MI
7/11 Rochester, NY
7/12 Baltimore, MD
7/13 Raleigh, NC
7/14 TBA
7/16 Palm Bay, FL
7/18 Tampa Bay, FL
7/19 Orlando, FL
7/20 Miami, FL
7/22 Chattanooga, TN
7/23 Joplin, MO
7/26 Minneapolis, MN
7/27 Chicago, IL

* Other Dates Pending

TOUR DATES

THE STAND HEARTBREAK TOWN



THE STAND Are
Simply Exhilarating!
- CCM Magazine

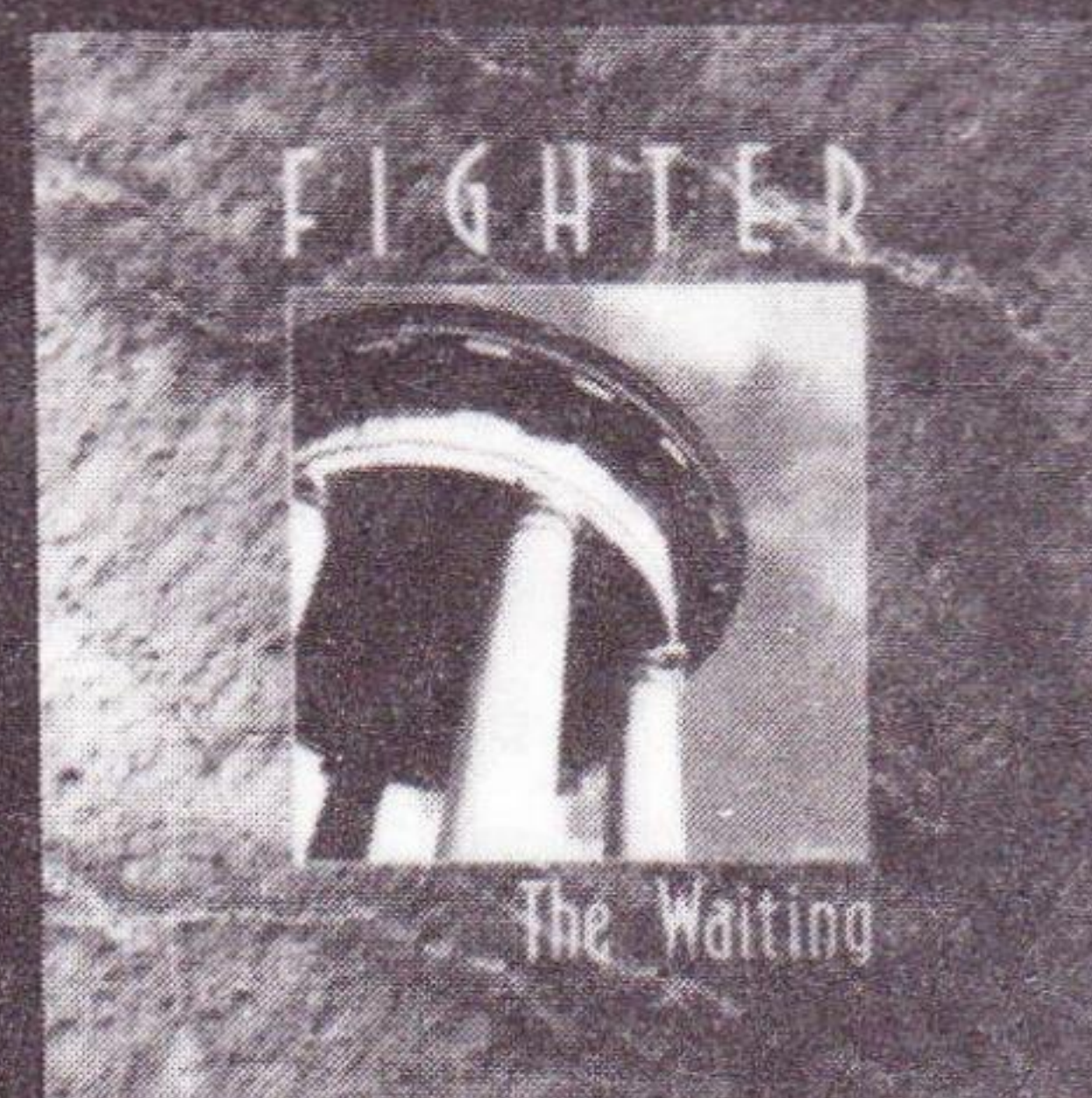
Watch For THE
STAND's Fall Tour
For More Information
Contact Greg Menza &
Associates
404.427.5335

For Jet Circus & Fighter
Tour Info Contact
Masterock Artist Agency
305.341.5444

WONDERLAND

WONDERLAND COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
310 E. CHICAGO ST. ELGIN, IL 30120
708.695.0711

FIGHTER THE WAITING



FIGHTER Comes Out With A
Debut T.K.O.
- Harvest Rock Syndicate

FIGHTER ON TOUR WITH WHITECROSS

Topeka, KS 9/13
Oklahoma City, OK 9/14
El Paso, TX 9/15
Albuquerque, NM 9/16
Phoenix, AZ 9/19
Hesperia, CA 9/20
San Diego, CA 9/21
Los Angeles, CA 9/22
Atascadero, CA 9/23
Modesto, CA 9/24
Marysville, CA 9/26
Reno, NV 9/27
Sacramento, CA 9/28
Medford, OR 9/29
Boise, ID 9/30
Denver, CO 10/1

*Plus Many More. Keep
Looking!

TOUR DATES

1990 Heaven's Metal Reader's Poll

Well, it's been another good year for Christian heavy metal, and here's the Reader's Poll results that give us an idea of how good it was. The questions asked you readers what your favorites were in each category. The word "favorite" was chosen over "best" for obvious reasons: the body of Christ doesn't need any more competitive attitudes. Thanks to all you who voted. For those who didn't vote and don't like the results--vote next year!

Favorite Album

- 1)(TIE) "WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE"
by DELIVERANCE
& "STOP THE BLEEDING"
by TOURNIQUET
- 2)"Holy Soldier" by Holy Soldier
- 3)"Faith Hope Love" by King's X
- 4)"Against The Law" by Stryper
- 5)"Once Dead" by Vengeance Rising

Favorite Live Band

- 1) ONE BAD PIG
- 2)Bloodgood
- 3)Believer
- 4)Vengeance Rising
- 5)Holy Soldier

Favorite Bassist

- 1)ROGER DALE MARTIN
(VENGEANCE RISING)
- 2)Doug Pinnick (King's X)
- 3)Jim LaVerde (Barren Cross)
- 4)Andy Robbins (Holy Soldier)
- 5)(TIE) Michael Bloodgood
Ez Gomer (Jet Circus)



Tourniquet pictured with P.I.D. in the studio.
L to R: (Back) Gary Lemaire, Ted Kirkpatrick,
Erik Mendez, Victor Macias; (Front) Barry G,
Kevin Lynch, Fred Lynch, and Guy Ritter.

Favorite Singer

- 1)GUY RITTER (TOURNIQUET)
- 2)(TIE) Rey Parra (Sacred Warrior)
Mike Lee (Barren Cross)
- 3)Michael Sweet (Stryper)
- 4)(TIE) Steven Patrick (Holy Soldier)
Dale Thompson (Bride)
Doug Pinnick (King's X)
- 5)Dave Robbins (X-Sinner)

Favorite Drummer

- 1)TED KIRKPATRICK (TOURNIQUET)
- 2)TIE) Joey Daub (Believer)
Tony Velazquez (Sacred Warrior)
- 3)Robert Sweet (Stryper)
- 4)Terry Russell (Holy Soldier)
- 5)Jerry Gaskill (King's X)

Favorite Guitarist

- 1)REX CARROLL (WHITCROSS)
- 2)Jeff Scheetz
- 3)George Ochoa (Deliverance)
- 4)Dennis Cameron (Angelica)
- 5)Larry Farkas (Vengeance Rising)

Favorite Album Cover

- 1)"WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE"
by DELIVERANCE
- 2)"Stop The Bleeding" by Tourniquet
- 3)"Once Dead" by Vengeance Rising
- 4)(TIE) "Your Dying Day" by Haven
"Testimony Of Apocalypse"
by Sacrament
- 5)"The Torment" by Seventh Angel

Favorite Band

- 1)STRYPYPER
- 2)King's X
- 3)Tourniquet
- 4)Believer
- 5)Holy Soldier

Favorite Thrash/SpeedMetal Band

- 1)DELIVERANCE
- 2)Vengeance Rising
- 3)Believer
- 4)Tourniquet
- 5)(TIE) The Crucified
Sacrament

Favorite Custom/Independent Tape

- 1)DRIVER (EP)
- 2)"Dead And Buried" by Immortal
- 3)"Theater Humanitarian" by Scarlet Rayne
- 4)"Presumed Dead" by Sacrament
- 5)(TIE) "Demo #2" by Bride
"Cool Tunes" by Various Artists
"Angelix" (Demo)
"Dancing Naked" by Lust Control

Favorite Unsigned Band

- 1)DRIVER
- 2)Paradox
- 3)Seventh Seal
- 4)Thresher
- 5)(TIE) Martyr
Overdrive
Immortal

Favorite Song

- 1)"YOU GET WHAT YOU PRAY FOR" by
TOURNIQUET
- 2)"Slay The Wicked" by Deliverance
- 3)"Victory Dance" by Jet Circus
- 4)(TIE) "It's Love" by King's X
"Warfare" by Vengeance Rising
"Rock The Hell Out Of You"
by Stryper
"Everybody Knows My Name"
by Bride
"Into The Abyss"
by Vengeance Rising
- 5)"The Ark Of Suffering" by Tourniquet



LICKS & TRICKS

By Jeff Scheetz

This month I'm going to take a break from the usual *modus operandi* of guitar columnism. In place of exercises, licks, and tricks, I'm going to tell you about a new organization that I'm heading up called the INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF GUITAR MANIACS. This is an organization for guitarists of all levels and styles. The main focus is to "band together" players from around the world. There will be a strong emphasis on helping the "unknown" guitarists through Networking, Education, and Exposure.

Bankers, Doctors, Mechanics, even Fishermen, all have numerous organizations and associations they can join to provide information and benefits to their chosen professions. Unfortunately Musicians, in particular guitar players, have not had this

opportunity. This is why the I.N.G.M. has been so well received!

So what do you get when you become an I.N.G.M. member? First, you will receive a subscription to the GUITAR MANIACS newsletter (quarterly), which is packed full of columns on guitar technique as well as career-oriented subjects like: What to do with your demo tape; How to put together bios and press kits; How to pursue endorsements and record deals; and more! We will also be devoting a section of the newsletter to reviewing our member's demo tapes. This will not only provide exposure for our member's tapes, but will also give the rest of us a chance to get these tapes for ourselves and be the first to listen to some of these undiscovered monster players. New members will also be

put in our global member directory, which will serve as a vehicle for members to correspond with each other. Some of the future plans call for a compilation CD that features our members.

As you can see, the I.N.G.M. is a very exciting organization that offers many unique opportunities for guitar enthusiasts. I highly recommend you become involved with this organization, because--whether you are a beginner and want to start off on the right foot, or a pro looking to gain valuable exposure and important contacts--the I.N.G.M. is for you!

A one-year membership in the I.N.G.M. is \$15.00 (\$20.00 outside U.S.) Send check or money order to: I.N.G.M., PO Box 32776, Kansas City MO 64111. HM

INSIDE/OUT

By David Bach



Howdy Folks!

Now I know you're probably thinking, "What in the world is this new column in my issue of Heaven's Metal?" or better yet, "Is this not merely an attempt by the Guardian bassist to embark on a shameless campaign of self-promotion in a futile attempt to bolster his sagging ego? (PHEW!)"

Yes! and the answers to these and other exciting questions will come soon...Just as soon as I can conjure up a good reason!

Seriously, I've wanted to write this column for a long time as I've felt God prompting me. (Uh-Oh! you say, "He had a vision!")

Let's face it--Most of us who read

Heaven's Metal are either in a band or were in a band or would like to be in a band or would like to get out of a band or...(Oh Stop it!) Okay, speaking as a man in a band who has been through the ringer more than a few times, I felt that it might be cool to have a column where I could share a bit of what I've learned about the rigors of survival in a Christian band. As many of you road dogs know, there is a huge difference (A chasm!) between Fantasy and Reality, even in the Christian realm of the music business, and if I could help some of you who are just starting out or just playing your first gigs learn from and avoid the mistakes that we've made, then we all could benefit spiritually and musically.

Now, on with the show! Let's say we have a bluesy melodic thrash band (I'm trying to make everyone happy). The band who call themselves "TORTURED VIRTUE" are a four-piece outfit consisting of Biff the singer (who also plays guitar), Ace the guitar slinger, Max the bass player, and Jimmy the drummer. The Tortured Virtue dudes have been practicing hard in Jimmy's garage for months (Years?) and have played a few gigs for the youth group at Biff's church. Things have been going well spiritually, as a girl got saved last week at the band's weekly Bible study; but the guys are feeling a little bit down, because as Ace pointed out, "If we only had a record out THEN our ministry could be really effective!"

So the search begins for the elusive record deal.....Then...It happens! After months of trying to talk Jimmy's dad into financing a good demo tape, one night Biff bursts into the garage bringing tidings of great joy! THE BIG BREAK HAD COME! THEY WERE GONNA MAKE A RECORD!!! Quickly, Biff breathlessly explained the band's good fortune. It turned out that Biff's second cousin's twice-removed uncle owned a small record company! Well, he kinda owned it.

Well...Actually, the uncle had a business called "Uncle Jake's Waffle and Record House." You know, the kind of place where Uncle Jake pressed up a few records on the griddle when the waffle crowd thinned out after the breakfast rush. But hey! like Max said, "Ya gotta start somewhere," and this seemed like an answer to prayer. All they had to do was sign up with Uncle Jake and they'd be on their merry way down the road to musical and spiritual success. It was unbelievable! It was happening! Just a contract meeting with Uncle Jake and they could start recording and... and....

We'll see what happens with the band next issue; but now, a word from our sponsor...

Hey! I thought we could end each chapter of the adventures of Tortured Virtue with a bit of advice and something from God's Word (the final say on all business matters). Since this is our first chapter, we'll let God have the floor! See ya next issue!

"In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, Who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of His appearing and His kingdom, I give you this charge: **PREACH THE WORD**; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke, and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry." (2 Timothy 4:1-5 NIV)

HM

Ex•plo•sion (ĭk-splō'zhən)n. 1. A sudden outburst, as of emotion. 2. An abrupt, violent release of energy. 3. The innovative blend of Metal, Funk, and Fusion created by **Jeff Scheetz** on his debut release **"Woodpecker Stomp."**

"Talent, energy, execution and excitement are abundant in this thoroughly contemporary player. It's a sure bet he'll be scooped up soon by some major act looking to fill big shoes."

-Guitar for the Practicing Musician, January 1990

"Executing moves that will fry your brain."

-Notebored, Aug. 1989

"Voted best guitarist in Kansas City 1989."

-Banzai Magazine Readers Poll

Just when you thought you'd heard everything an instrumentalist could offer... Enter the

"Woodpecker Stomp."

The unique, fresh, and exciting release that's sure to make Jeff one of the hot players to watch in the 90's. A must for your progressive guitar collection. **Available on Cassette and CD.**

Also, you've seen his teaching column in past issues, and now you can have a private lesson with Jeff in your own home with his new instructional video. You'll learn phrasing and theory along with an extensive series of technique building exercises for all levels. See for yourself why YAMAHA guitars endorses Jeff as one of their top clinicians!

****To order: Send check or money order made payable to RE-FLEX RECORDS, 11020 King St., Suite 350, Overland Park, KS 66210 or call toll free (800) 526-8749 or (913) 345-2366. (\$7.98 for Cassette, \$12.98 for CD, and \$29.98 for video.) All U.S.A. orders include \$1.00 for postage and handling, Outside of U.S.A. include \$3.00. Kansas Residents include 5.75% sales tax.**

****DEALER AND DISTRIBUTOR INQUIRIES WELCOME****



**J
E
F
F

S
C
H
E
E
T
Z**

METAL TRACKS



Andy, Scott, and Steve (Photo by Paul Wharton)

On stage at the Grand Ole Opry to accept Dove Awards for Metal Album Of The Year and Metal Recorded Song Of The Year were Holy Soldier's Andy Robbins, Scott Soderstrom, and Steven Patrick. What?!? That's right, Steven is going to be singing on the upcoming Holy Soldier record, which the boys are recording now. David Zaffiro will again take the production reigns. Expect the release in October. Guitarist Scott Soderstrom replaces Michael Cutting, who is now putting together his own band which is writing material in the R&B Metal realm, such as Extreme.

The nominees for "Metal Recorded Song Of The Year" were: **Attention Please** by Whitecross; **Judas' Kiss** by One Bad Pig; **Stranger** and **See No Evil** by Holy Soldier; and **You Get What You Pray For** by Tourniquet. The Dove went to Holy Soldier for **Stranger**. The nominees for "Metal Album Of The Year" were: "An Axe To Grind" by Ken Tamplin; "Swine Flew" by One Bad Pig; "Get It" by X-Sinner; Holy Soldier's debut; and "Stop The Bleeding" by Tourniquet. Holy Soldier took home the Dove for album as well.

Bloodgood is in a Los Angeles studio at the moment.

Deliverance will be hitting the studio soon to record a "live in the studio" album, which means the band will be playing all the instruments at the same time instead of individually recording each instrument's track. The name of the album will be "What A Joke!" Included will be a new version of **Attack**, which appeared on the "California Metal" album. Expect it in July.

The Crucified's new album, "Pillars Of Humanity" will be released next month on Ocean Records. The band is playing a show with Deliverance at the infamous L.A. Country Club as we go to print. The band's new address is: PO Box 26133, Fresno CA 93729-6133.

Those of you who may want to write

Road Racer Records in an effort to get them to push **Believer** real hard into the secular market may do so at: Road Racer Records, 225 Lafayette St, Suite 709, New York NY 10012.

Things have changed for Vince Van Voltenburg since the last issue. It seems Vince's plans for an acoustic praise album have been put on hold in lieu of a full band album. The band will be called **Vin Van Volt**, and includes two former Roxway members. It's hard rockin' stuff that still features some jammin' acoustic guitar. The tune **Pain Reliever**, which Vince performed with Barren Cross on the road last year, will be part of the band's repertoire.

I had the awesome privilege of spending the weekend with Star Song Records, Dove Award winning producer Steve Yake (Carmen, Petra), **Whitecross**, **Novella**, **Bride**, and **Xalt** filming an exciting video package called "Metal Mission." The weekend started off with a **Whitecross/Novella** concert. Each band began its set by coming out and lip-synching to a DAT recording of a song. The crowd responded enthusiastically (wouldn't you if you were gonna be in a video?) to the following songs: **Give Me Love** and **Do We Just Surrender** from **Novella's** debut; and **In The Kingdom**, **No Second Chances**, and **We Know What's Right** from the new **Whitecross** album. The concert went well, despite a few sound system problems. I was impressed by Star Song exec Dez Dickerson volunteering to run sound during the entire show. New **Whitecross** members Butch Dillon (bass) and Michael Feighan (drums) were more than impressive, they were hot! Footage was shot of Scott Wenzel's sermon, as well as the altar call, and some interviews with people who accepted Christ that night, one of whom was the light man. The next day's filming included all four bands. **Whitecross** got an early start in a Tulsa graveyard, to add a soberness to the message of

No Second Chances. A touring bus was rented and some video footage was shot for the ballad **In The Kingdom**, which shows Rex playing acoustic guitar sitting next to Scott as they travel down the freeway. A cool interview with **Bride** was conducted in the back of the bus. **Bride** filmed two videos, one of which was **Everybody Knows My Name**. These guys did a great job giving energy off to the audience in a big way. **Xalt** came on next and ran all over the stage. **Novella** ran through its two tunes and **Whitecross** finished off with its huge logo banner behind the very large theater stage. Again, several people showed up to make the video footage look like it was a packed hall. The whole weekend was quite a thrill, especially getting a chance to interview all the bands and see producer Steve Yake in the production truck with all the monitors and calling out "One, four, two--close up on the guitarist, one, four, two," as the video was edited as they went. Hats off to **Star Song** for being the first to venture into the metal video realm. **Heaven's Metal** is very pleased to be a co-sponsor of this video package, which should hit the stores this month.

King's X is now back in the States doing its own headlining tour. The third single from the "Faith Hope Love" album will be **I'll Never Get Tired Of You**. The band will have a song on the upcoming "Bill and Ted Go To Hell" movie soundtrack, **Junior's Gone Wild**, along with **Kiss**, **Winger**, **Primus**, **Megadeth**, **Slaughter**, and **Faith No More**. The album will be available late this month on Interscope Records. **MegaForce** is releasing a **King's X** video called "King's X Chronicles." The band was voted by the readers of **Rolling Stone** as the "Best Heavy-Metal Band."

Jim LaVerde is in a new band called **Showdown**, made up of several M.I.T. grads. They play some hot hard rock.

Mike Lee has now got his band completely together. "Thanks to everyone who has sent demos," says Mike. "Right now I'm busy trying to get a deal. I'm shopping a new demo around." Mike's going after a mainstream commercial metal stuff. "It's got some real heavy, heavy stuff, and some ballads as well." He is making himself available as a studio session vocalist for album or demo work. Interested bands/artists may write: 13774 Grenada Dr, Magalia CA 95954-9017.

Passion is Dave R. Reeves' (ex-**Neon Cross** vocalist) new band, which is reported to be a real cool hybrid of psychedelia and metal.

Lightforce is no more...but don't despair--the band has tackled thrash-ier tunes and changed its name to **Mortification**. The lineup includes Steve Rowe, Michael Carlise, and Jayson Sherlock. Roger Martinez produced the band's debut album, which will be out on Intense Records this summer. Roger was flown out to produce a 6-song EP, but it went so well that 11 songs were put down. "The album and new direction is so extreme and different to old **Lightforce** that we have decided to change our name," says band leader and drummer **Steve Rowe**. "Mortification

means 'death to the flesh.' The album is super heavy death metal in the vein of Morbid Angel or Napalm Death. Probably the heaviest Christian album to date!" The band plans on putting out a video called "Lightforce Brutal Warfare End Of An Era" video, which will cover footage from over the years.

Intense Records has jumped on the video bandwagon as well, producing a video counterpart to the Hot Metal Summer series, simply titled "Hot Metal." Dave Carr, who produced some of the "Hard 'n' Heavy" videos, will be doing the honors for **Tamplin** and **Vengeance Rising**. Jim Hodson produced **Ransom's** video. Deliverance, **Angelica**, **Sacred Warrior**, as well as Tourniquet's **Ark O Suffering** video will also be included. All the vids except Tourniquet's were shot on film (which is much higher quality than video tape for actual filming). There will be interviews, backstage antics, and testimonies as well. It's gonna sell for \$9.98! Thanks Frontline! Now the Christian metal market has a few videos to speak of. We've gone from famine to feast!

The bands playing this year's "New Talent" stage at Cornerstone are: **Zadox**, **Elektrik**, **Reign Of Kings**, **Whiteray**, **Ordained Fate**, and **Traxter** (on the metal stage); **Absence Of Ceramics**, **Black Carnation**, **Donderfliegen**, **John Austin & The Embarrassing Young**, **Over The Rhine**, and **Vague** (on the alternative stage). Myrrh Records is releasing a cassette sampler called "Breaking New Ground," which will include tunes from the six alternative bands listed above, as well as **Holy Soldier**, **The Choir**, **Russ Taff**, and **Phil Keaggy**.

Kevin Allison of the **Pure Rock Report** and Brian Brooks will be running a low-wattage FCC-approved radio station at the C-Stone Fest site. Should be fun and cool.

This year's fest will be filmed by Tom Green of Lightmusic, a nationally-syndicated Christian and "positive value" (?) video program currently aired on 60 broadcast stations, four satellite networks, and over 900 cable systems.

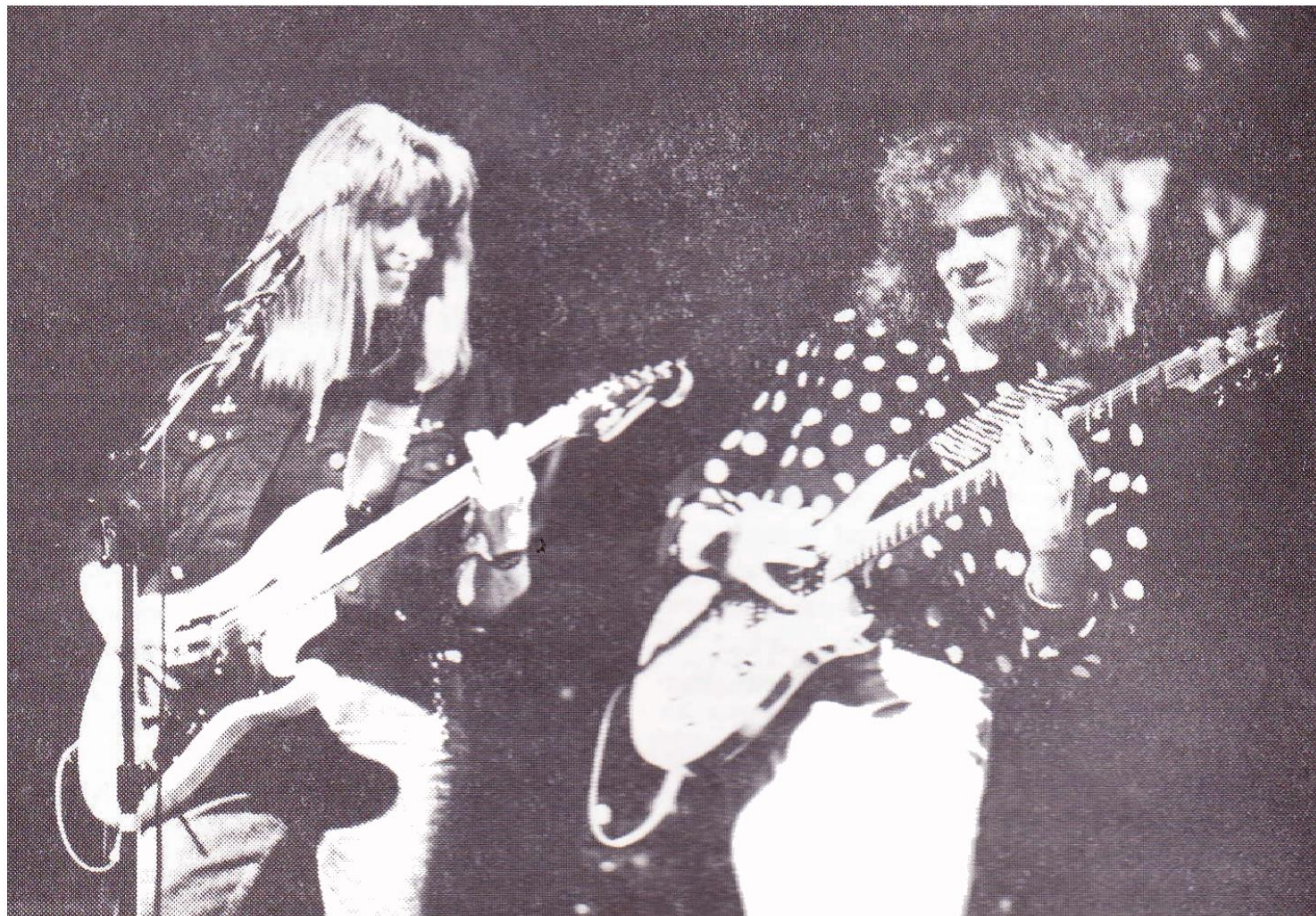
A fourth stage has been added, which will cater to impromptu band performances. **Shadow Wings**, whose production company--Sacrifice Productions--is running sound, will be performing. Bassist Rev. Patrick Hillstrom was featured in the **Peavey Monitor**.

Late-breaking lineup changes for C-Stone includes the inclusion of **Chagall-Guevara** (replacing the 77's), **Mastedon**, **Jeff Johnson**.

Intense Records just signed the **Sanctuary Praise Band**, which includes **Bob Beeman**, **Jim LaVerde** and **Glen Mancaruso**.

Tourniquet invited P.I.D. into the studio to do a thrash-rap tune on its "Psycho Surgery" album.

GMA Week '91 was a good time. I personally found attending the event very worthwhile. I got a chance to see industry friends and bands that I talk to on the phone with all the time but only get personal time with about twice a year (at GMA and C-Stone). Among those present were: the guys in **Seraiah**, along with members of **Xalt**, **Whitecross**, **Holy Soldier**, **One Bad Pig**, the



Hei Stemer (Rachel, Rachel) & Dann Huff (Giant) Photo by Paul Wharton

violet burning, **The Choir**, **DigHayZoose**, **Novella**, **Brian Healy** (Dead Artist Syndrome), **Jeff Johnson**, **John and Dino Elefante**, **Michael Knott** (LSU), and several cool radio people. Highlights of the week were: getting to see **Novella** perform live; the awesome, funky, and energetic set by **DigHayZoose**, which started off with lead vocalist **Phil Schlotterer** singing the **Keith Green** tune **Oh Lord, You're Beautiful**, which went right into romping grooves ten miles deep. Other antics included throwing stuffed animals out to the audience and introducing one song with, "There's been a lot of talk about this next song; maybe too much talk. This song is not a rebel song..." This band must be heard! They're truly hip; **Traxter** came on after **DigHayZoose** and performed an extremely tight set. The rhythm section was especially impressive. The only thing holding this band back is the over-used style of songwriting they pursue. They do what they do well, but **Iron Maiden**, **Sacred Warrior**, **Recon**, and **Queensryche** have all done it many times before.

Other highlights were: the fiery guitar work of rapper **Mike E**; **Jag** covering the **King's X** classic **Over My Head**; **John and Dino**, along with **Rick Cua**, covering the **Kansas** tune **Fight Fire With Fire**; and **Rachel, Rachel's** showcase gig, which included a cameo appearance by guitar hero **Dann Huff** during another **Kansas** cover--**Carry On Wayward Son**. These Los Angeles-based ladies did a good job. One month later Word Records transported them back out to Nashville for the company's summer sales conference, where the band played a concert and filmed a video for **Carry On...** This time original songwriter **Kerry Livgren** joined the girls on stage for the song. **Phil Keaggy** joined **David Mullens** on stage during the same showcase concert. David will be playing with the **Black Crowes**, **B.B. King**, and others at the **Beale Street Blues Festival** in Memphis, which expects 50 to 75,000 in attendance.

Josh Kramer, former **Saint** vocalist, has just gotten married. Josh and his bride,

Esther, are now living in Seattle. The couple plan on recording together and teaching music. Josh's mail-order guitar lessons have been on hold for some time and may resume in the near future. We'll keep you posted.

R.E.X. Records signed **Living Sacrifice**, which recorded its album recently with **Doug Mann** and **Believer's Kurt Bachman** producing. Look for this technical speed feast late this month.

Hoi Polloi, the New Zealand progressive rock band, has been signed to **Reunion**. By the way, **Reunion** is looking for some metal bands to sign, so they can take advantage of their **Geffen Distribution** connection.

The band **Seven** have changed its name to **Orion**.

X-Sinner and **Guardian** played a show together in March, where **X-Sinner** played an encore of the **Zion** tune **He Loves You**.

Highwaymen are a medieval metal/Iron Maiden-type band from New Zealand that is making some loud noise down under.

Ken Tamplin has begun work on a new solo album.

Mark Farner has been working on his new album, which includes a Christian reworking of the **Grand Funk** classic **Some Kind Of Wonderful**. "My Jesus is some kind of wonderful..." The album is mostly pop, which might disappoint some of his hard rockin' fans.

Love Life is supposedly a **Skid Row**-type band musically... Your **Heaven's Metal** roving reporter will be in L.A. to check them out shortly, so I'll tell you if they live up to the hype. The band will debut on **Blonde Vinyl Records** in October.

Screamin' Eden are opening several **Whitecross** shows in the North/Northwestern states as well as Canada.

Knightriot has run a big half-page ad in Southern Cal's **Screamer Magazine**.

Sacrament will be distributed in Japan's secular market via **Metal Mania Records/Japan**.

Jet Circus should be the next band to follow with a Japanese deal on Metal Mania.

California-based **The Reign** has been signed to Image Records, and now has its debut album out, which features some harmonica playin' by **Darrell Mansfield**. **Adam Again's** Gene Eugene produced the hard rockin' alternative album, titled "Euphoria."

David's Secret is a full four-piece band on Image Records that plays some guitar-oriented instrumental music.

Image is going to get its Rock artists to start doing contemplative instrumental albums. **Zion's** bassist, **Marlin Saner**, will be doing a project featuring some saxophone work. Meanwhile, **Zion** looks for a vocal replacement for departed **Rex Scott**, who has teamed up and hit the road with **X-Sinner**.

Bobby Smith, the former guitarist for **Eternal RYTE**, is working with **Steve DeRoque** (formerly of **DeRoque**), who co-wrote the **Recon** tune **Dreams**. If anyone wants further info, they can write: **Steve DeRoque**, 34714 Avenue E, Yucaipa CA 92399.

Tony Palosios of **Guardian** is working on a solo album.

Rex Carroll played on **Re-Run Berry's** album. The joint JCI/Star Song secular label 2:14 Records (named after **Habakkuk 2:14**) is releasing a "Best Of **Whitecross**" album. To aid in promoting the album, 2:14 Records shot a video for the song **Down**. **Rappers D.O.C.** made an appearance on **The Weapon**, a tune off the new **Whitecross** album - "In The Kingdom."

Bride has finished its fourth album. It was produced by **Steve Griffith**, who produced the **Everybody Knows My Name** cut on the "Best Of **Bride**" album. The band has signed another multi-album contract with **Pure Metal**.

Xalt recorded its second album, which was produced by **Tony Miccelli**. It'll be out in July.

Novella was chosen to play at the **Rock Rap Soul Reception** on July 14th at the **Christian Booksellers Association (CBA)** Convention, along with **Margaret Becker**, **Tim Miner**, and **ETW**.

Rich Toomey of **Kingdom Ministries** has put together an interview program called "The Rockside Files," which features a fully-produced show with interviews and music that will be made available to any Christian radio station in the world. For info, write: **SUB Box 2161**, Seattle, WA 98119, or call (206) 286-6186.

Brad England, a dj for **WHLO** in **Akron, Ohio**, and listener **Gary Coffing** were the two winners in the "Ransom Contest," which was sponsored in part by **Heaven's Metal Magazine**. Chosen out of 50 winners, these two will be flown out to **L.A.** to meet the band and check out its show at **The Country Club**.

In an effort to get **MTV** to play the **Tourniquet** video, **Frontline** sent three giant boxes to **Martha Quinn**, **Ricky Rachtman**, and a program director. Each box had an old, rusty bear trap, a stuffed animal caught in it, and several bloody animal photos, plus a note that

says, "You can help stop the bleeding."

Les Carlsen and **Michael Bloodgood's** show on **Z-Rock** in **Seattle** is going great! It's called the "Eternal Rock Show."

X-Sinner is touring. Guitarist **Greg Bishop** will be a new papa. His wife **Karen** is expecting in July.

Straightway signed a management deal with **Expression Music Group**.

Melvin Booker quit **Seventh Seal**, making the band a one-guitar band again.

KOKF in **Oklahoma City** just went from 3,300 watts to 100,000 watts. This station plays metal every night and is listener supported.

Traxter's album "Rock 'N' Race" is being distributed by **Spectra** into the Christian market.

"Righteous Metal 2" on **Arrival (K-Tel)** Records includes: **Victory Dance** by **Jet Circus**, **Crying Out For Love** by **Joshua**, **When The Reign Comes Down** by **Holy Soldier**, **Do We Just Surrender** by **Novella**, **Living On The Edge** by **X-Sinner**, **Minister By Night** by **Sacred Warrior**, **The Harvest** by **Angelica**, **See Me Sweat** by **One Bad Pig**, **You Get What You Pray For** by **Tourniquet**, and **Non-Point** by **Believer**.

Apparently latest **Sacred Warrior** addition guitarist **John Johnson** is fitting in very well with the band's new double guitar approach. Vocalist **Rey Parra** has also been blessed with his own new family addition.

Paradox has won the radio promotions contest mentioned a few months ago. The group's song **Power And Glory** from the custom tape of the same name will receive Christian radio promotion. Request it from your local Christian radio station.

Stevie And The Saints rocked the **Rose Parade**. Every year a group of Christians plan an outreach to the thousands of **New Years** revelers. **Glen Mancaruso** sat in on **The Saints'** high energy set.

D.O.N. has a new address: 525 NE 44th Terr, Kansas City MO 64116.

Subscriber **Micah Cayen** is making a summer missions trip to **Nicaragua**.

Whiteray has a new address: PO Box 58552, Louisville KY 40258.

"Why Your Pastor Should Ride A Harley" is the theme of the **Wonderland/Jet Circus/Harley Davidson** essay contest, which will award the winner a genuine **Harley Davidson** jacket as well as specially endorsed **Jet Circus/Harley** merchandise. Essays must be postmarked no later than **June 15th** and sent to: **Wonderland Communications Biking Pastor Contest**, 310 East Chicago St, Elgin IL 60120.

Kilowatt is looking for a drummer. Call **Mike McManigell** (ex-Sovereign Steel) at (214) 613-6027.

Lex Rex is working on its second album, titled "The Devil's Nightmare."

Red Sky is reforming and in the process of recording its third demo. Influences are **Allan Holdsworth**, **King's X**, **Rush**,

Metallica, **Watchtower**, **Dave Weckl**, **U2**, and more. The band is looking for a singer and bassist for live and studio stuff. Interested parties write: **Red Sky**, 1445 1st Ave SE, Cedar Rapids IA 52402.

Martyr has undergone a complete face change. Founder and only original member **Ladislao Prado** has kept the name **Martyr** and has new members: **Jeff Edwards** (drums), **Noah Vollmer** (rhythm guitar), **Eric Clausen** (lead guitar), and **Tyger Falmo** (vocals). **Ladislao** is backing off of lead vocals and concentrating on bass, while still occasionally handling some vocals. A new tape, called "Death Is Still...Dead" is available for \$9.00. For info on the **Martyr Banner Club**, write: PO Box 1142, Porterville CA 93258.

Kingdom Bound '91 will be happenin' this year in **Darien Lake** from August 21st through the 24th. For info, write: PO Box 91, Buffalo NY 14216.

Spyke Lhard has had a deluge of requests for his free spoof on Christian music tape. Because of the large number of requests, he's had to solicit donations from some to cover the minimal costs of duplicating.

Soldiers Of Light Productions in **L.A.**, a firm with such credits as **Terminator II**, **The Abyss**, and **Diet Coke**, has a division that produces half hour video program called "The Ground Floor" hosted by **Kevin Allison**. **Kevin** has interviews and hip videos, and this is a syndicated program available on a station near you. For info, call 818-345-3866.

Steve Whitaker, former **Barren Cross** drummer, is a daddy! **Christopher Alan Whitaker** was born on March 27th. Congrats **Steve** and **Christy**!

Ray Mileski, a body builder who won the "Mr. Wisconsin Bodybuilding Champion" award, met **Roger Martinez** on the road last year and was asked to pose for the upcoming album cover. So, the guy you see is **Mr. Wisconsin**, a man of God.

Greg Strange, formerly known as **Greg Sostrom** of **The Lonely Now** and **Narrow-path Records**, is releasing an album called "24 Hours To Live."

Blah are a new hardcore Christian punk band out of **So. Cal.**

Mike Tyrrell, former **Broken Heart** guitarist, was seen at **GMA** and is looking for a band.

AM97 is an almost all Christian rock radio station in **Michigamme, Michigan**. To get your music aired, write: **Joe Austin**, Box 754, Michigamme MI 49861.

Apprentice is a new Metal band out of the **Houston, Texas** area. Look for a custom album from the band this month.

Arsenal's new address is: PO Box 7732, Clearwater FL 34618-7732.

King's Ransom has a new address also: PO Box 83015, Hamilton, Ontario, L8L-8E8, Canada.

Truth Seeker is a Metal band from **Stow, Ohio**, who was refused to participate in a talent show sponsored by the city of **Stow** "due to the band's religious beliefs...since it is City-funded." Another leader once said, "Blessed are you when persecuted for My Name's sake."

Most all the Christian rappers got together at GMA to pray for each other and build unity. Hmmm. This kind of thing needs to happen with us, don't you think?

Former Holy Soldier manager Daryn Hinton got married May 18th. Congrats Daryn!

L.O.U.D. is heading up to Canada this month to minister.

scaterd-few recently returned from a small Northwest tour, which vocalist Ramald Domkus says "went really well." How's that for a detailed statement?

One Bad Pig on getting nominated for two Dove Awards: "I'd like to thank all the little people," says drummer Phillip Owens, "Sandi, Amy, and all those people."

"I'd like to thank Streak Wheeler," says new bassist Daniel Tucek (since Streak vacated the bass position).

The Christian Media Retail Directory is a directory for people/firms that are seeking to contact the various stores handling Christian music. Also available on computer mailing labels or floppy disk. For info, write: James Lloyd, PO Box 3, Ashland OR 97520.

Stage Right Productions books X-Sinner, Xalt, Seraiah, Bride, Sacred Warrior, comedian Walt Kessler, and others for ministry dates as fill-in times. So, any youth groups, churches, or clubs that are interested in seeing the above ministries come to their home town for a concert stop, call Robert Hawes Jr. (313) 736-7404.

REZ's "Civil Rites," Cause In Effect's "Listen To His Voice," and Crashdog's "Humane Society" are just a few of the releases from Grrr recordS that are slated for debut at this year's C-Stone Festival. These timely "unleashes" are being launched with a one time special offer of \$2.99 for cassettes and \$5.99 for CD's at the Grrr/REZ concession booth on the grounds of C-Stone. Grrr recordS has recently taken responsibility for its own distribution. "Both Ocean and Word have given us great support and encouragement over the years," says Glenn Kaiser. "Without their input, we would never have come to this point of growth." Also, "Awaiting Your Reply" and "Rainbow's End" are scheduled for re-release on CD at C-Stone.

Overdrive bassist Bill Goodwin and his wife Jeannie are the proud parents of Evan Andrew Goodwin.

"White Heat," a Christian metal radio show created by Victoria Ltd, has been picked up by the Armed Forces Radio Network to be broadcast to U.S. military personnel stationed around the world. Copies of the show will also be sent to U.S. Naval ships to be broadcast while at sea.

Mike Delaney and John Thompson (True Tunes) are holding the first annual used record blow out at C-Stone this year--called the "Bizarre CCM Bazaar." If you wanna sell your stuff at C-Stone, you must get in touch with Mike before the fest. Write: Rad Rockers Emporium, 370 Greentree Lane, Milan MI 48160; or call (313) 439-1393 (at a reasonable hour).



"We Are Finding Who We Are" by King's X is a collection of live footage from Texas and London, England. Conceptually hidden amongst all the live stuff is a short scenario with Doug, Ty, and Jerry landing on a giant stone that rises out of the desert in the shape of the letters "Faith Hope Love." The letters, like the album cover, feature carvings of the creation, fall, and redemption of man. Throughout the length of the video the guys jump across the spaces between each letter, being sure not to fall thousands of feet down to their death; but, by the end of the video, when they reach the word "Love," they are walking directly over that space--like walking on air by faith. Once they get near the end, an opening in the shape of Gretchen's "Nebraska" scene appears. The guys end up jumping through it and land in the middle of the street that is pictured on the back of their "Silent Planet" album. One of the funniest scenes of the video is a shot of a zealous fan jumping up on stage and touching Doug Pinnick's arm, shoulder, and mohawk before being rushed off stage.

This vid, of course, is featured on the "King's X Chronicles" home video. HM



Trading Post classified ads are \$5.

* **Take A Stand** \$7 for 6 monthly issues, or \$12/year. (Canada: \$85.13, Overseas: \$12/\$20), PO Box 10741, Scottsdale AZ 85271.
 * **Notebook**: \$5 for 6 issues. \$1 for current issue. (Checks or MO only) Box 202, RD 1, Atglen PA 19310.
 * **The Cutting Edge**: \$9 for 12 issues (Overseas send \$20). Dan Kennedy, 8303 Hilton Way, Orlando FL 32810.
 * **White Throne** \$3 for the current issue, to: White Throne, PO Box 20577, Dept. H, Castro Valley CA 94546.
 * **White Noise** Subscriptions are \$3 for 4 issues. Write: PO Box 1564, Point Roberts WA 98281-1564.
 * **Gospel Metal** - \$3 to: 3331 E. Romelle, Orange CA 92669.
 * **Cross Rhythms** - 3 British Pounds in I.M.O. or 32 British # - 12-issue sub, 164 High Street, Birmingham, B12 0LD, England.
 * **Radically Saved** Sample \$2 (\$2.50 Can.) Sub: \$8.75 for 6 issues (\$12 Can. \$18 Overseas): PO Box 9590, Murfreesboro TN 37132.
 * **White Metal Review** For a recent 80-page issue, send \$3.95. To subscribe, send \$12 PO Box 700024, Tulsa OK 74170-0024.
 * **The Obligator** \$1 for a trial issue or \$5 for five-issue subscription. : Mark Hodges, PO Box 915, Muskegon MI 49443-0915.
 * **Cephas**: The radical metal mag with bite. \$2 an issue, or \$7 a year. Phil Powell, 9401 Calton Ln, Ft. Washington MD 20744.
 * **ACM JOURNAL**: PO Box 1273, Sumner WA 98390.
 * **Professional Career Development Services** for the Serious Performer--Mail S.A.S.E. for free information to: Richard A. Painter Music Corp, PO Box 111717, Nashville, TN 37222-1717.
 * **ROCK TOWER NEWSLETTER** - Sample copy \$2.50. Follow The Light Ministries, PO Box 113, Absecon NJ 08201.
 * **TEMPERED STEEL** is a weekly 2-hour Christian metal show featuring ALL THRASH & HARDCORE. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the show each week AT NO CHARGE, write or call: Tempered Steel c/o Dale Early, PO Box 1212, Ft.

Myers FL 33902/(813) 275-3455.

* **CD's For \$9.98 & Cassettes for \$6.63...** Let us show you how. Write for free catalog: Daystar 78 E. Main St. Marlton NJ 08053 or call: (609) 983-7737.

* **DRUMMER NEEDED**: Career-minded final member wanted. Original rock project. Excellent connections, facilities. Most essential requirements: 1) Christian Integrity, 2) Excellent Meter. Equipment, Experience, Appearance of lesser importance. Use your God-given talent without compromise of integrity. If you can master parts that revolutionize rock percussion, call to discuss further: 713/944-1727.

* **ATTN: UNSIGNED BANDS**. Vital and priceless information. How to Keep from Getting Burned: The Complete Guide for Unsigned Bands. Covers everything. Send \$5 to: JCR Productions, PO Box 37355, Raleigh NC 27627.

* **NIGHTWIND**: A new fiction mag in the superhero style mode with a Christian warrior as the main character. Asking subscription rate of \$7.20 for 6 issues or \$1.20 for current issue. Crowbar Prod, 1020 NE 179, Portland OR 97230.

* **HELP!!!** Christianshow on secular college radio statn needs alternative, rock, hard rock & metal LP's, cassettes, CD's (preferred) and promo mats for 3-hour Sunday afternoon show. Send to: M. Potter, 3611 HWY 97N #11, Klamath Falls OR 97601.

* **LIVELY STONES** is a Christian Metal/Punk radio show on G-90 FM (WGRN) in Greenville IL that is dedicated to playing demos by underground bands! Interested? Send demos and ordering info to: Lively Stones, c/o G-90 Greenville College, Greenville IL 62246.

* **STYPER COLLECTOR** seeks merchandise, music, T-shirts, etc. Call (204) 422-8134 or write Darrel Reimer, Box 21545, Steinbach, Manitoba, Canada, R0A-2T3.

* **Build your metal collection at unbelievable prices...** CA METAL I & II, UNDERGROUND METAL I & II, NEON CROSS, CONTAGIOUS, WATCHMEN, EAST COAST METAL. CD's \$2.99, Cassettes \$1.99, LP's \$3.99. Add \$5.00 postage each. While supplies last. Send check or money order to THE ROCK OUTLET, 4452 Ocean View #201, Montrose CA 91020. 818-249-1151

* **Arrangements for Two-Handed Tapping on Guitar**. Includes Amazing Grace and Silent Night along with exercises and Boogie patterns written in standard music notation and tab. Includes beginning and intermediate levels for each arrangement. Send \$10 to: Hands Down Music, 1722 W. Walnut, Roswell, NM 88201.

* **Danny Tallakson** (formerly of FINAL WARNING--featured on "Underground Metal 2") is re-grouping. Any interested parties and/or encouraging saints may write Danny at: 527 E. Washington Ave #7, Escondido, CA 92025.

* **Wanted: DRUMMER** for Established, Indiana-based, Thrash/Punk Band. Experience preferred. Must be dedicated to Music and Christ. Those interested please write or call: Killers Of Death, c/o Tom Alcorn, 3722 Shady Ct, Ft. Wayne IN 46807, 219-456-5117.

* **CHRISTIAN METAL REVUE**, a new quarterly magazine dedicated to in-depth reviews of Christian heavy metal music releases. For a copy of the premier issue, send \$1 payable in U.S. funds to: CHRISTIAN METAL REVUE, c/o Mark Fusa, 4108 D William Fleming Ct, Ft. Worth, Texas 76115.

* **GAB PRODUCTIONS** is now interviewing bands for future concerts in the Midwest area. To set up an appointment, send your name(s), address, telephone # and a demo tape (if possible) Write: GAB PRODUCTIONS, PO Box 297, Berwick, IA 50032.

* **SAVE LIVES** of suicidal friends. Newstart Newsletter has survival tips for immediate results and advice columns from Metal Mom, Angela and other friends. Join a God-loving family that cares about you. Send (Long) SASE (Please Print) & \$2.00 money order (Only) for Sample Newsletter and subscription info to: Newstart, 526 D S Main, Bobby OK 74008.

* **New Thrash/Metal magazine**. New issue has interviews with Sacrament and Living Sacrifice. Sample issue: \$1.00. One year subscription (6 issues): \$5. Checks payable to Steve Miller. Send to: 9404 Shadow Rock Ct, Charlotte, NC 28270.

* **MIDNIGHT METAL THUNDER** needs demos of hardcore Punk & Thrash for its radio show. Please send only air-quality demos. Send to: PO Box 6828, Glendale CA 91225-0828. Plus any band playing in So. Cal. area: please send concert info and it will be a p.s.a. on KPRO 1570 AM Riverside, California.

* **STRYPER WANTED** - Picture Discs, Colored Vinyl, promotional fan club, concert, and import merchandise, Robert Sweet drumsticks, magazine articles, posters, T-Shirts, etc. Michael Govostis, 5744 West Circle Drive, Oaklawn IL 60453.

* **VOCALISTS OUGHT**: Intricate progressive, very heavy metal band with mystical elegance. (non-thrash) Seeks creative vocalist with wide range (professional level). For more information call (619) 487-2911 or send demo to: Michael Russo, 17093 W. Bernardo Dr. #105, San Diego CA 92127.

* **HOLY SOLDIER**: Greetings and Salutations! I'm in search of Holy Soldier goodies to add to my collection. I need all kinds of merchandise! The more, the better. Contact: Shelly E. Nimocks, 15055 Ashton, Detroit, Michigan 48223, (313) 273-5835.

* **CHRISTIAN METAL Vocalist and Bass Guitarist** needed to complete band. Must have experience, desire and looks. Please send tape, bio and photo to Samuel Ketenjian, 4544 W. 136th St, Hawthorne CA 90250. (213) 644-4388 or Ed at (213) 838-3637.

* **JAM**. Jesus And Me. A new zine for those who want to know more about Jesus & His music. \$1 for the 1st issue or \$6 for a yearly subscription. Steve Erfelt, 20030 Lions Gate, Humble TX 77338, 713-446-8782. Also, we need demos, band info, and articles.

* **CHRISTIAN THRASH METAL BAND, THRESHER**, is now auditioning drummers. Send resume/statement of faith and audition tape to: Thresher, PO Box 311, Thorndale PA 19372.

* **FORCE MAJEURE MINISTRIES** will do sound for an unbelievable bargain. Call Charles at (512) 794-0515.

ALBUM REVIEWS

Recommendations this issue go to Detritus, Ordained Fate, Fourth Estate, Rachel Rachel, Consecrator, One Bad Pig, X-Sinner, King's X and "Metal Mission" videos, Broken Silence (Hawaii), and Surrender. If an ordering address does not appear in the review, that means the product should be available in Christian bookstores.

"DESTRUCTION COMES" - VENGEANCE RISING

Go ahead and get excited. The anxiously-anticipated third release by Vengeance Rising is out and it'll rip yer head off. Ever menacing lead growler and composer Roger Martinez himself produced "Destruction Comes" and has done so with shocking cleanliness.

Guest lead guitarist D. Sean and drummer Chris Hyde flawlessly polish this collection. Consisting predominantly of horrific, death-metal styling, "Destruction" pulsates with authority right from the first furious beat, thrusting bone-chilling scripture, testimony, and challenge straight into your thick head as only V.R. can--just the way you like it!

This landmark thrash offering turns new stones by throwing in hints of creative vocal sampling here and there--a feat that very few thrash bands dare attempt, but one that Vengeance Rising does with unparalleled effectiveness and class.

Especially hair-raising is Roger's own vicious rhythm guitar style--that's right, he played it himself and, what can I say, he totally shreds. He's obviously God's gift to moshers. If you were scared that Vengeance Rising might wimp out, forget it! This one's gonna choke you!

--John Wilson

"PEACE TREATY" - X-SINNER

Yesss! New X-Sinner LP! Right from the start I'll say this, "Peace Treaty" will have to be one of Satan's most-hated albums. This being the debut of former Zion vocalist Rex Scott, who not only shares the last name of the late Bon Scott (of AC/DC fame), but also the raspy vocal style that made Bon famous.

The album title is based on the new covenant between God and man. Pretty righteous, huh? I'm really looking forward to seeing X-Sinner live. With titles such as *Rollin' Thunder*, *Hold On*, *I Take Power*, and *Gotta Let Go*, this will, I predict, be X-Sinner's best release yet. Honestly, reviewing this LP has blessed me totally! Krunch!

--Stephen Wagers

"I SCREAM SUNDAY" - ONE BAD PIG

The first two Pig albums, "Smash" and "Swine Flew," both had classic tunes on it--like *Isaiah Six*, *Looney Tune*, and *Judas' Kiss*--yet still came across as somewhat of a novelty in some ways. The songs were funny and thrashy, and even made forays into alternative rock--like *Red River* and *People Cry Out*--yet didn't fit into any one category very well. I'm not knocking these albums (I enjoy both of them), but I'm setting the stage for showing where the Pig has grown since then. "I Scream Sunday" is a serious

rockin' album! Sure, it's got fun and humorous tunes on it, but songs like *Take A Look At Yourself* and *For A Good Man* lay down some mean grooves. And the Johnny Cash cover--*Man In Black* will be the first song most everybody notices about this record--it's rippin.' Once you hear the opening line of, "Hello. I'm Johnny Cash," you're sold. It rocks in a big way. The chorus is nice and huge.

The guitar lines in *Take A Look At Yourself* make me think that Q-Pek has spent some time listening to Vernon Reid's *Living Colour* work. It moves! Daniel Tucek's bass work is downright impressive. None of us knew he could slap like that. *You're A Pagan* starts off with Phillip Owens hitting his drumsticks on wood, which acts as a good intro. The title track starts off with the familiar groove of *Under Pressure*, as Owens goes, "Yeah, P.I.G." and the band mimics Vanilla Ice by saying "Ice Cream Sundae." I wonder how many people will fall off their chair when they hear it for the first time!

Lyricaly the album is very tight and full of conviction and wit. Each of the four members used their pen this time around, and they all did a good job. *Sober Up* is an interesting tune that fluctuates back and forth between punk/thrash and Reggae. *Wholly My Lord* is the showstopper of the tape, and boy does it sound worshipful! The first time I heard it I found myself praising God deep within my heart.

The strong conclusion I have drawn is not a new revelation for me, but it has been driven home deepest with this album--One Bad Pig ain't no joke!

--Doug Van Pelt

"COME JOIN THE HEARD!" - Various

Pakaderm has released a compilation of its roster's hits. One listen to this tape and you get a good idea of the kind of high quality that Pakaderm is known for. People who haven't heard these bands will enjoy this helping. Included is: *Power Of Love* and *Never Say Goodbye* from Guardian's new album; *On Any Sunday* and *Wash Me In The Rain Again* off Brighton's debut album; *Run To The Water* and *It Is Done* by Mastodon; *Nothing But The Blood* and *He's Got The Whole World In His Hands* from the "Rock Power Praise" album; *Good Feeling* and *Language Barrier* by Halo; *True To Myself* and *Don't Give In To The Night* by Michael Gleason; and *Livin' On The Edge* and *Accountable* from X-Sinner's debut album.

--Doug Van Pelt

"WAY TO MY HEART" - RACHEL, RACHEL

Is it metal? Not really, but it's definitely rockin' enough to warrant a review here. I'm talking about Rachel, Rachel, the new all-girl Rock band. Great harmonies, good rockin' guitars and drums, and polished 90's production, courtesy of Whiteheart's Billy Smiley.

Cheryl Jewel handles lead vocals with total control and intensity. The ballads here are haunting and cool, with acoustic and electric interplay. The highlight of the album is the excellent cover of *Carry On My Wayward Son*, a must buy for all old Kansas fans. This album is

radio-ready, but don't hold that against them. These ladies have the chops to back up the great looks and the songwriting is definitely moving. Take Vixen and put them together with Wilson Phillips and you have the sound of Rachel, Rachel.

--I.B. Willis

"ARMORED CHOIR" - ARSENAL

Anyone who remembers *Message Of Love* and *Stand Strong* from "East Coast Metal" ('88) can now get stoked, 'cos Arsenal is signed!! Clean, melodic Rock and Roll is the mode of this four-piece outfit from Florida. Eight jammin' tunes and two ballads here showcase rare professionalism, exemplified by competent, punchy rhythms, tight bass, highly relatable lyrics, and super production.

Of most significance, however, is the electrifying, crystal-clear delivery of Christine Steel, a stand-alone lead vocalist following the Ann Wilson trail, but with tons more power. The ballad *Forever Yours* floors me.

This album boasts such balance and strength in so many ways! I have virtually no doubt that, if given the proper attention, "Armored Choir" is destined to become a Rock/melodic Metal classic. If Arsenal can somehow get hooked up with a major tour, they'll blow huge audiences away. You've got to check this album out!

--John Wilson

"BRAVE NEW MUSIC" - Various

This 10-song sampler really only has three songs of much interest to metalheads: Legacy's powerful Whiteheart-ish hard rocker *What A World*; Screamin' Eden's very mellow ballad *Till The End*; and Paradox's *We Are The Temple*. The Paradox tune is the only real metal on the album, but it is a disappointing re-working of a great song. It sounds pretty good, but those used to the original from the custom "Ruler" tape will be depressed at what producer Steve Griffith did to the song. One noticeable missing part is the line "Satan will tremble/ when Jesus Christ is seen in me" from the choruses. Fernando Hernandez's wailing dive-bomb leads still find their way onto tape here though. The pre-chorus was lightened up with a little major chord. Not a bad above-ground debut for the band, but those of us who voted them "Favorite unsigned band of the 1980's" expected much more.

Some of the non-metal cuts on the album, like *Painted Orange's Hands* and *Broken World* by The Trust, are very good. The diversity of styles is very wide, from Adult Contemporary to Metal, which tries to please a lot of people but may end up annoying the masses. It's a good idea, though, to include a ballot for listeners to send in their votes for favorite song on the album.

--Doug Van Pelt

"METAL MISSION" (Video)

Christian metal fans rejoice! More Christian bands than ever before gathered on one pro video for our viewing and listening pleasure--"Metal Mission: Hard Rock On The High Road." Whitecross starts off this 45-minute "on-the-road documentary" with *We Know What's*

LOVE AND DEVOTION
AS DEEP AS THE OCEAN...



ELECTRIK SHINE

STRAIGHT FROM THE SUNSET STRIP!

qty	Item	price each	total price
	A. SHINE CANDY SHINE - 3 song cassette "industry raw mix"	\$ 5.00	
	B. SHINE CANDY T-shirt - hot pink & white front and back design (M, L, XL) specify White or Black shirt	\$ 12.00	
	C. 8 x10 Promo Glossy	\$2.00	
	D. ELECTRIK Shine Candy Button	\$1.00	
	E. SHINE CANDY SHINE DECAL	\$2.00	
	F. TOURING CIRCUS LOGO DECAL	\$ 1.50	
Name		Total Amount Due	
Address			
City		State	Zip
Phone			

Send S.A.S.E. to ELECTRIK P.O. BOX 4130 Redondo Beach, CA, 90278

SOUL SHAKIN' THE NATION SUMMER SHOCK TOUR '91



- JUNE 2** WHISKEY A GO-GO, HOLLYWOOD, CA
TBA METAL MIDNIGHT - FULLERTON, CA
29 WEST CENTRAL COMMUNITY CENTER - SPOKANE, WA
- JULY 1** LOCATION TBA - SEATTLE, WA
TBA DETROIT ROCK CITY ?
4-6 see ya at CORNERSTONE - BUSHNELL, ILL
7 SAMARAI STEAK HOUSE - MUSTANG, OK info. (405) 376-1889
28 CHUCK E. CHEESES - TEMPE, AZ info. (602) 641-9876

FOR FURTHER CONCERT INFO CALL (213) 735-8887
THE SHINE LINE!

Right, filmed on the HUGE stage of the Brady Theater in Tulsa, Oklahoma. All the lights, room, and fog a band would ever want are supplied here for the "Wow" effect.

Bride's haunting **Everybody Knows My Name** shows up next, which provides an excellent visual compliment to this great tune. Judging by stage antics, this video would be the highlight of the package. Dale and Troy Thompson have a good stage awareness and presence. Troy stands out with his hollow-body electric guitar. "I figured the other guitarists would be using these real nice Charvel guitars," explains Troy, "so I wanted to be different."

Novella's **Give Me Love** and **Do We Just Surrender** appear, giving us real faces behind this melodic music. Xalt performs their socks off for **Standing**, a rocker from its new album--"History." One highlight is the mean lead break Jim Erdmann handles one-handed.

Interviews and hilarious cut-ups give the video a personal balance that keeps the whole package from coming across as a "Rock Star's weekend" type vibe. The honest and humorous quotes from these musicians show their hearts and prove that they are indeed on a mission. We not only see where the musicians are coming from, but the audience as well. Several metalheads and even a mom express what Christian metal means to them. This, coupled with the "ministry time" filmed, makes this video a good tool to help convince a skeptic that all this stuff is legit.

The quality of footage and editing is professional. This could easily air on an MTV special (I wish it would!). No cheesy stuff here. The only drag about the video is that every song but **Everybody Knows...** and **In The Kingdom** are interrupted during a solo section for further interview footage. The editing carries a thought or theme well with the song, but I'd rather watch the whole song and then hear the talking afterwards.

Not perfect, but a must-have for metalheads. You won't be embarrassed to show this to anybody. In fact, you'll probably be very pleased.

--Doug Van Pelt

"ARISE SKATES" (Video)

If you are interested in skating, get

this tape. If you have ever bought or rented a skate video, get this tape. If you have some unsaved friends who are skaters, get them this tape! Get the message dude?! The undisputed street skating king (for the King) is Andre Walton, and he totally thrashes tricks up and down the deck. His talent gives us would-be sidewalk shredders something to aspire toward. Andre and his team tear through pools, ramps, tennis courts, parking lots, and more--and there's totally rad tunes jammin' behind them. Crucified, scaterd-few, S.F.C., Seventh Angel, and more. Filmed mostly in Southern Cal, you get the supreme SK8vibe. Cool footage from C-Stone too.

The thing that separates this video from the rest, every 10 minutes or so Andre asks one of his team about Jesus, and it's done in a totally cool way. At the end of the tape Andre gives his testimony and it's sure to open up some hearts to the Truth. Over 40 minutes of cool tunes, thrashing SK8-ers and the Truth about Life--what more do you want dude!!!

--I.B. Willis

"KING'S X CHRONICLES" (Video)

This six-video collection contains each of the high quality videos that King's X has released with each album. **King**, **Shot Of Love**, **Over My Head**, **Summerland**, **It's Love**, and **We Are Finding Who We Are** are presented here with short quotes from various people like Wilde Silas Tomkins to Paul The Apostle written in graphics between the videos. No interviews or backstage antics showed up here, which would've been nice. I've been diligent enough to record each of these videos individually from MTV, but the millions out there who haven't now have the chance to own them all in a nice video package. It's retailing at a very nice price around \$16.98.

--Doug Van Pelt

"METAL MELTDOWN" (Video)

This Keith Miles' sponsored festival/concert in L.A. last year has been captured with three or four cameras on video tape. Lots of cool editing tricks like slow-motion, freeze-frame, and paint-splashing dress up these exciting acts: **Apostasy Denied**, **Ransom**, **Bride**, **Seventh Seal**, **Deliverance**, **Eternal Ryte**, and **Final Axe**.

Ransom's song **Fool That I Am** gives us a good glimpse at this melodic band live,

although the sound wasn't that happenin', nor was the song as well polished or structured as it is on the album.

The three bands that benefit the most from this visual representation are: **Bride**, **Seventh Seal**, and **Final Axe**, simply because they're the most visual bands of the bunch. You can witness the flair of Dale Thompson, all the theatrics of **Final Axe**, and the well-trained antics of **Seventh Seal**, who can win over an audience with one note.

Seventh Seal appears with three cuts, the thrash/rap tune **He's The Man**, **Never Loved Like This Before**, and **Fire**. **Deliverance** is shown going nuts with **Victory**, **Weapons Of Our Warfare**, and **Deliverance**. With the **Eternal Ryte** footage (**No More Lies**, **King Of Kings**, and **Tightrope Dancer**) we get to see Bobby Smith's blazing guitar action. Wow! The guy shreds! Watching him blaze is worth the price of the video alone.

The audio lacks, and what happened live is what you get, which is unfortunate, because this video is in stereo hi-fi. It sounds like we're getting the board mix for the audio track. The biggest flaw to this package is the lack of bright lighting. Two more spotlights would've helped immensely. While not the quality of the pro videos we're seeing released this month, this is still a package most Christian metalheads will want to have.

--Doug Van Pelt

"ALIVE X 2" - FINAL AXE (Video)

Four crunchin' tunes grace this video, which shows better lit footage than the **Metal Meltdown** video. **Vengeance Is Mine** and **Don't Run Away** are the two live cuts. Bill Menchen's leads sound really good on **Don't Run Away**.

The other two songs, **Rated X** and **Heads Will Roll**, are conceptual, which feature live footage thrown in with crazy and fun footage shot outside. The audio portion comes from the band's studio recording, so it's punchin' pretty loud. Overall, this video is pretty underground, public-access kind of material, which would've blown people away ten years ago, but now looks out-budgeted by today's standards. A necessary purchase for **Final Axe** fans.

--Doug Van Pelt

FORTRESS.

ROCK A

A MIGHTY MESSAGE FROM MATTHEW WARD.

"TURN YOUR CAR TO ME; COME"

SURRENDER

This is one of the finest demos I've received in recent times. This quintet plays a heavy melodic metal with nice biting guitars. Jamie Wollam's drums are miked and mixed well here, as is Mike Alten's vocals. The double guitar interplay between Alten and Charlie Johnson sound nice and tight in *Save Me Tonight*. The big 'n' smooth BGV's of the band give the band the kind of credibility that should make labels sit up and take notice. Musical comparisons to Bon Jovi, Dokken, and early Stryper wouldn't be too far off. *Long Winter* even has a little bit of Triumph style to it. It's a soaring ballad. I'm looking forward to hearing more from this band. With a little more work on the songwriting, these guys could capture the hearts of many listeners.

This 5-song tape is available for \$5 from: Soundtrax Group, PO Box 60653, Pasadena CA 91116-6653.

--Doug Van Pelt

FAXX

Here's some high quality music. It's so refreshing to see a band go after a commercial/melodic style and actually pull it off. Faxx, a Lancaster, California-based hard rock outfit, are very competent. Lead vocalist James Salters reminds me of Twenty/20's old singer, and maybe a little bit of Joey Tempest (Europe) thrown in. Musically, the Europe comparison is very close. Nice guitar chops are complimented by subtle keyboard lines. *Big World*, *Waiting*, and *Follow Me* are recorded here, with *Follow Me* probably being the hardest. The big BGV's remind me a little bit of The Scorpions as well. Hot band to be reckoned with.

For ordering info, write: PO Box 500093, Palmdale CA 93550.

--Doug Van Pelt

CROSSOVER

This two-song cassingle, produced by Rob Rock, has some quality melodic hard rockin' that could air on the radio. Rob "Golden Throat" Rock adds his vocals in the background here as well as handling production direction. *Victory* has a very cool and authoritative guitar line with lots of sass. Lead vocalist Jack Marques displays a little vocal agility by handling a low 'n' gritty range to add emphasis to *Victory*, while he

sings in a clean register for the more melodic *Heaven*. Word has it that Mr. Rock is real hip on these guys and is shopping 'em to labels.

Copies of this cassingle can be had for \$3.50 (plus \$1.50 p&h) from: Dave Travis, 448 Grotto Ave, Pawtucket RI 02860.

--Doug Van Pelt

CONSECRATOR

Oh my gosh! Brilliant! Fans of Believer will freak! Bassist and vocalist Glenn Johnson even sounds a bit like Kurt Bachman. The duplication sonic quality holds the tape back ever so slightly, while the crunch and piercing riffs manage to stand out. While being somewhat technical in its approach, Consecrator writes some melodic riffs. The double guitar approach of Steve Tidwell and James Chavez blend very well and create a nice wall of crunch.

Make Me Laugh shows influences of Glenn Rogers (early Vengeance and Deliverance) song structuring, with a little bit of Iron Maiden lead guitar lines thrown in. It swells with rhythms, which act as a good foundation for these type leads.

The drumming of Ashley Lawhon makes itself known in a frenetic way during *Satan Lies*, where fiery leads scream away almost as fast as the snare pops. You'll love the opening riffs to *The Messiah Call*. Wow! *Casted* starts off real mellow and plods into some heaviness. This band could release the killer debut album if picked up and produced well.

To order this quality custom tape, send \$5 to: James Chavez, 2114 Yale Avenue, Wichita Falls TX 76301.

--Doug Van Pelt

ORDAINED FATE

Here's a very cool female-fronted thrash band that used to be known as Cryptic Axe before each member got saved and became a Christian band. (If they had a girl drummer, it'd be an all-female band) There's tons of heavy riffs akin to Iron Maiden/early Dio-Rainbow Egyptian/medieval rhythms, as well as tight speedy, choppy, 90-mile-an-hour rhythms. *Let's Make A Deal* introduces the excellent low-range vocals of rhythm guitarist/lead vocalist Pam Scott. The chorus features some really cool vocal trade-off using a stereo mix. "Call me (echo)..." These

girls (and one guy) rock! It is a unique novelty to have all girls at the front of the stage thrashing it up, but these artists can hold their own musically as well. No slouches here! Lyrically, *Let's Make A Deal* talks about the false promises some people hear from preachers asking for money. "My name is Bob (Tilton--it's gotta be), And if the price is right/You could have success in life...Bow your heads, and say your prayers/I've got five more minutes, before I'm off the air...Show your faith by how much you pay." Good expose` of creepy practices.

An authoritative reading of John 3:16 begins the heavy *No Death*, which deftly shows off the band's ability to fly. A scream in every chorus sounds like Lary Dean lent his pipes, but no mention is made in the credits to verify this. The leads at the end of the song and in *The Hunted* show off lead guitarist Annette Stupar's strong abilities. Both guitarists have good tones. Check out the instrumental *Temptation 2* for verification. *Wonderful Love* is a great song about fallin' in love with God.

To order this 7-song tape, send \$6 (\$8 anywhere outside U.S.) to: Ordained Fate, PO Box 923, Zion IL 60099.

--Doug Van Pelt

"IN PHASE" - FOURTH ESTATE

Awright, already...puh-leeze, will somebody give me a break? I have a hard enough time playing E chords on my own stuff, without worrying about the George Lynch's, Steve Vai's, and Nuno Bettencourt's of the world, and now along comes Dave Beegle and Fourth Estate to make my life more complicated and send me back to guitar lessons for another ten years or so!!

This is one scary three-man band from the Denver area that plays some great fusion with a rock edge. The guitarist, Dave Beegle, strikes me as being stylistically somewhere between a modern Al Dimeola, Steve Morse, and Eric Johnson. Complementing Dave is Fred Babich on bass. Fred's style reminds me of Jerry Peek (who played with Steve Morse in his solo group). It's truly refreshing to hear the bass featured in the arrangements as much as the guitar and this is a tribute to Fred's ability. Jim Iltis, the drummer, is also a great player who shows a lot of great licks on the songs without

AS BIG AS ALL OUTDOORS.

CKLY TO MY RESCUE: BE MY ROCK OF REFUGE, A STRONG FORTRESS TO SAVE ME." PSALM 31:2

AVAILABLE ON HIGH QUALITY CHROME CASSETTE AND COMPACT DISK FROM YOUR LOCAL CHRISTIAN BOOKSTORE.



"over-playing."

These guys have been together for quite some time and their cohesion shows on all the tracks from "Edge Of The Shaddow," their 1989 demo, and "In Phase," their brand new demo release. The opening cut on "Edge" is an arrangement of J.S. Bach's *Jesu, Joy Of Man's Desiring* that makes you feel good all over, and it gets better from there. Highlights for me (in addition to Joy) are the tracks *Highlander*, *Mason Street Shuffle*, and the instrumental cover of *Locomotive Breath*. Generally, the guitar overdubs are kept to a minimum; these guys make so much sound they don't need overdubs!

Their brand new demo, "In Phase," shows more of a rock edge, with some absolutely shredding guitar against the usual wild bass and drums. I expect these guys to tear it up at C-Stone '91 and the word is they will be signing with a major mainstream label soon. If that's the case, "Edge Of The Shaddow" and "In Phase" will likely become collector's items. Good luck, guys!

For ordering info, write: 427 West 5th St, Loveland CO 80537.

--Rex Carroll

"PERPETUAL DEFIANCE" - DETRITUS

This thrash band from England utterly shreds! Fans of Testament's melodic-yet-edgy speed metal will literally froth at the mouth over this tape. *Playing With Fire* shows the dexterity of this band, changing between slow, melodic phrasing and fast and furious riffing. *Morbid Curiosity* plods along as it brings home a confrontational message to those who choose to ignore even hearing about Christ. Nice and to-the-point.

This band deserves the recognition as one of Christian Metal's mightiest bands. No one into speed and thrash metal will be disappointed. Nothing holds this release back, not fidelity (it's clean), not the vocals of bassist Mark Broomhead (nor his funny last name), not the artwork...nothin'. This is a great album. No frills, just kickin' tunes at breakneck speed.

--Doug Van Pelt

"ROCK 'N' RACE" - TRAXTER

When I first glanced at this cover I thought Douglas was introducing secular music to the review column, but after a second look I noticed it said "Traxter," not "Trixtter." Like the secular group, Traxter's cover looks like a scenario out of a comic book. "This should be interesting," I said to myself. Unfortunately my interest is what was lost. In short, these guys are good musicians (individually). What is hurting the band is songwriting.

Not even the two instrumentals *Traxter* and *The Flight* have enough substance to hold it together. The lead guitar work is very hard to decipher (you know how you go to a show and you have to strain to hear the guitarist because of a bad mix?). Traxter has the potential to be an excellent band, but until they strengthen as song writers and the lead vocalist decides whether or not he wants to sound like Axl Rose or Dave Mustain...

--Joey Knight

ROYAL BLOOD

This 4-song demo is another project which lacks in songwriting. You can't keep people interested in a conversation if you talk in

a monotone voice all the time. This is just not the fault of the writing, but also of the singer. It's his job to use his instrument and craft to convey the message of the song and the expressive feelings in order for other people to "feel" the conviction of the song, which is missing in this effort. With a little more work, I'm sure there is good stuff in store.

For a copy, send \$2 plus a blank tape to: PO Box 4602, Chico CA 95927.

--Joey Knight

"2" - ABHOR EVIL

The new demo from Abhor Evil contains some decent moshing in tunes like *Element Of Mind*, but the lousy production sonics make it a chore to listen to this tape. The band has some good ideas with time changes and rests, but it ain't done right yet. I like the funky direction the band is going, so in time I expect we'll hear some really choice stuff. The fun behind the music is evident in *Bass Solo Salute*. It's not until *Love* that we really hear the guitars in the mix. A good mix would do this band wonders.

For ordering info, write: Jarrod Roark, 6805 Antioch, Overland Park KS 66204.

--Doug Van Pelt

HOLY SAINT

Even with production that is more demo rather than album-worthy, Holy Saint is a band worth looking forward to. Chris Brooks leads the pack with good vocal work, though diaphragm and control work would greatly enhance his already fine vocal job (I'm sure we'll hear a stronger Mr. Brooks in future projects). Guitarist Radical Rad does a most excellent job. He shows us that he has great chops on the instrumental *777*. Pat Tharp (bass) and Bruce Atomic (drums) do well holding down the rhythm. The ballad *Call On Your Name* is a little shaky at times, but overall I really enjoyed it! (Ed--it kinda has that Judas Priest-type feel.)

To order, send \$8.50 to: 183 St. Paul St, Suite 405, Rochester NY 14604.

--Joey Knight

TOWNE CRYER

After listening to this tape, you can tell this band has the potential to put out very good albums. This time, though, it's not the case. The music seems to be there, with good guitar work and a fairly tight rhythm section, but the lead vocal work is not doing much justice. It sounds like it's all coming from the throat and not the diaphragm. This at times can produce an annoying sound. Backing vocals can barely be heard at times. Overall, this effort shows that, if this band takes a step back to clean up its sound, it'll go far...musically.

For ordering info, write: David A. Vaughn Mgmt, 302 Rembrandt Dr, Old Hickory TN 37138.

--Joey Knight

BROKEN SILENCE

Ahh yes, Hawaii! The land of beauty, lush resorts, awesome surfing, and now--great music! This foursome comes through with flying colors!! Great vocal work (lead & backup). Freddy Trixx (bass) and Ace McFadden (drums) keep things water tight while Byron Jacobs (guitar) holds his own very well! What really makes

this an outstanding EP is the production and songwriting. Could it be...Yes! David Zaffiro not only produced this project, but also co-wrote the songs. Whenever David gets involved, all you can expect is excellence! Hey Doug, go get yourself another copy--I'm keeping this one!

For ordering info, write: 155 Sand Island Rd, Honolulu HI 96819.

--Joey Knight

BROKEN SILENCE

No, I'm not going senile. This Broken Silence hails from California and, unlike the other band, this one contains a very gutsy excellent female singer by the name of Tracy King. Hey guys, I-I-I-I-I like it! This foursome does a great job mixing pop rock like *Whatever It Takes*, along with hard rockers like *Are You Ready*. This stuff is very melodic with tasteful guitar work by Stephan Gomez. Great stuff guys, I look forward to seeing you live!

Available for \$6 from: Soundtrax Group, PO Box 60653, Pasadena CA 91116-6653.

--Joey Knight

"REVILING DARKNESS" - BETRAYAL

This five-man formula for a death/mosh concoction from Van Nuys, California known as Betrayal comes forth with "Reviling Darkness." Both guitarists Matt Maneas and Marcus N. Colon, as well as drummer Brian Meuse, are all formerly of Martyr, which will show some similarities between the old Martyr tapes and this band.

The opening track, *Prophets Of Baal*, scorches its way into your ears with technical ease. The one thing I notice about Betrayal is their clean, technical sound. *Fear Be Gone* is very reminiscent of early Voivod, with the way it's arranged. Side two blazes with *Frantic* and *When Darkness Reigns*. Fans of Believer and Tourniquet will be intrigued with "Reviling Darkness." I would like to hear more of Betrayal.

For ordering info, write: 5632 Van Nuys Blvd, Suite 135, Van Nuys CA 91401.

--Stephen Wagers

"LIVE LIKE A DEADMAN" - EMPTY TOMB

Hailing from Salem, Oregon, Empty Tomb's style of punk is coined as "Rawvante garde." Musically, Empty Tomb is pretty decent punk/thrash. "Live Like A Deadman" is a musically fun demo release from E.T. Unfortunately, the lyrics on some of these tracks borderline crass/tastelessness. I wish the best for these brothers, but if they wish to make a point, they should choose lyrics that won't offend anyone. Other than that, they overall are fun to listen to, but if you guys want to further your distribution, pray about what to put in your lyrics.

To order, send \$6 to: PO Box 20714, Salem OR 97307-0714.

--Stephen Wagers

"REST IN PIECES" - ROYAL ANGUISH

This four-man band from Boca Raton, Florida plainly and simply devastates! "Rest In Pieces" is a killer effort on the part of Royal Anguish. These heavenly moshers blaze through cuts like *Your Will* and *Fates Waning*. Other cuts like *Abortuary*, *Womb With A View* and

*Every Era Brings A New Wind of Change
And Now Straight from the Throne of Grace
With a Touch from the Divine...*



Debut Release **HOLY SAINT**

To order by Check or Money Order

To: Holy Saint
3400 West Ridge Road
Suite 231
Rochester, New York 14626

For cassettes \$8.50 includes shipping
Commercial Venders Call:
New Day Christian Distribution
1-800-251-3633

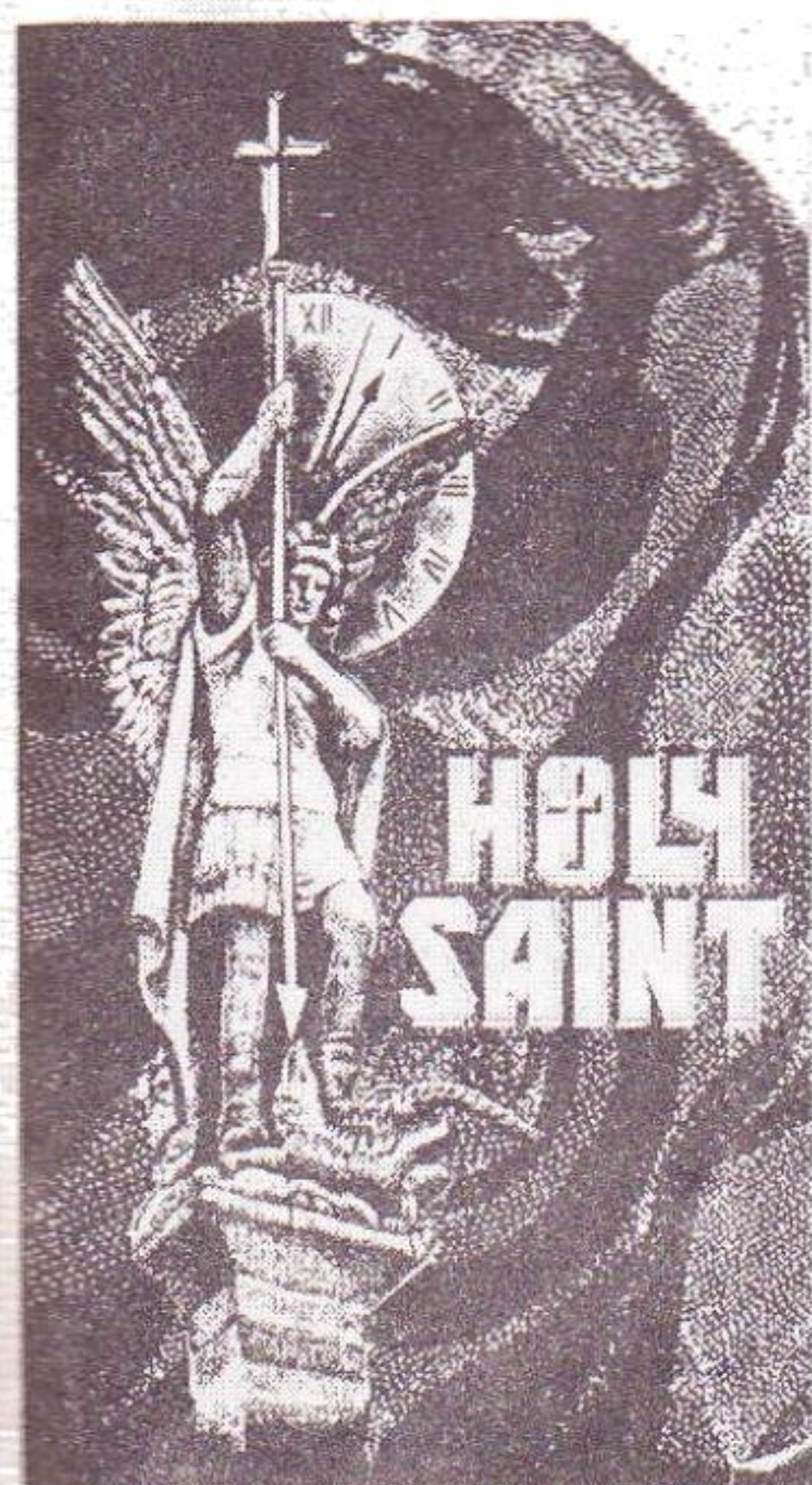
Accepting All Booking Agents & Promoters
1-716-251-1456

A New Intense, Raw, Experience of Power Metal

Played Hard, Heavy & Holy

On

**RAGING
RECORDS**



Rest In Pieces being the titles that deal with pro-life issues. Other than broadening their horizons lyrically, I would like to see Royal Anguish get signed and tour. Technically the boys are right on the money for producing good, tasteful thrash metal.

To order, send \$10 to: Matt Knowles, 332 NW 35th St, Boca Raton FL 33431.

--Stephen Wagers

"PAR SON SANG" - JESHAIA

Looks like we're going international on this one folks! Jeshia hails from Belgium and do a rather good job with their brand of thrash/metal. I don't really understand what they're singing, because the album is sung in French, but I understand the title means "By His Blood," and that the band opened up for Barren Cross on the European "State Of Control" tour last year. They are the only French-speaking Christian metal band in the world.

Take a listen, I'm sure you'll enjoy it. To order, send \$10 to: Jeshia, B.P. 38, 4432 Alleur, Belgium.

--Joey Knight

"METAL MISSIONARIES" - RIGHTEOUS

Hasn't this album title been used before? Hmmm?! Anyway, this album comes off as an average garage-sounding effort. Once again, this band shows potential, but the guitar leads need a lot of cleaning up. With that I bid you adieu.

To order, send \$7 to: PO Box 863, Chalmette LA 70044.

--Joey Knight

"RISEN" - HERO

From the land of deep freezes comes a very hot band! Hero hails from Alaska, but don't put them off yet, this trio prove themselves over and over again! I can see these guys really putting out great stuff in the future if it's anything like this! Calling all hard rockers and head-bangers alike, you'll enjoy it!

To order, send \$10 to: PO Box 240933, Douglas AK 99824.

--Joey Knight

"SMILE! JESUS LOVES YOU!" - FLESHWALKER

Not too good of a production, but rather a garage-type of Metal. Not too bad, though, but with a little polishing these boys should go somewhere. This Canadian band is not that bad for two guys. To order, send \$6 to: Todd Godin, 101 Candy Mountain Rd, Dartmouth, N.S., Canada, B2W-3X7.

--Stephen Wagers

DRASTIK MEASURES

These boys from Fort Worth, Texas remind me a little bit of Saint. Good songwriting, good production. **Make Some Noise** is the highlight of this demo. We need more Texas Christian Metal, so hopefully we'll see more of Drastik Measures. For ordering info, write: PO Box 136842, Fort Worth TX 76136.

--Stephen Wagers

"FASTER THAN DEATH" - DEELSPEED

Taking that there is no band info, lyr-

ics, or anything but the title, this band rips! If they get a little tighter, they will be a force to be reckoned with in the Christian thrash scene. The production on this demo could be better, but it gives us a good idea of what Deelspeed sounds like.

For copies, send a blank 60-minute tape to: 2074 Crompond Rd, Yorktown Heights NY 10598.

--Stephen Wagers

"ENSLAVED" - DEATHLESS

Yeeooooowww! These guys are intense with a capital "I." This quintet from San Juan, Puerto Rico is a good, tight unit. Good vocals, good metallic crunch. With gothic thrashers like Enslaved and God ~~Knows~~, this is a demo worth looking for. To order, send \$5 to: Deathless, calle 35 P-9, San Souci, Bayamon, Puerto Rico 00620.

--Stephen Wagers

RUDE AWAKENING

Rude Awakening is a band from Kalamazoo, Michigan that has good songwriting, but sounds like a haunting, death metal version of One Bad Pig and Deliverance. Rude Awakening is a cool mixture of Crossover Punk Metal. **Abortion Blues** sticks out the most.

For ordering info, write: PO Box 3052, Kalamazoo MI 49003-3052.

--Stephen Wagers

"QUITATE LA MASCARA" - VOX DEI

This is an excellent piece of production: Musically well-rounded commercial Metal. The only problem with this effort is that it's all in Spanish! which, don't get me wrong, sounds great, but if you don't speak Spanish, you can't be ministered by it. Nice packaging and sound quality.

For ordering info, write: Martin Hohl, 8 av. 15-14 2.1 6 to Nivel, Guatemala City 01001, Guatemala.

--Stephen Wagers

"THROUGH THE VIOLENT CIRCUS" - ORDER OF CHAOS

If you're a fan of Sacrament or Drop Dead, you'll certainly be totally blown away by OOC's "Through The Violent Circus." Just adding a rhythm guitarist to their fold, they have added a well-rounded crossover sound to Christian thrash. If blitzkrieg punk/thrash is your game, then you'll love Order Of Chaos.

To order, send \$5 (\$6 outside U.S.) to: James Agosto, 40 West Central St Apt #7, Natick MA 01760.

--Stephen Wagers

"HEAVENLY METAL HYMNS"

- JAIRUS TRUST BAND

All Hail The Power and A Mighty Fortress done in a metal fashion...Wow! How cool, but I hope contemporary Christian music is ready for Metal praise and worship songs, because the Jairus Trust Band is. The vocals on this tape are a little rough, but, other than that, "Heavenly Metal Hymns" is a little out of the ordinary, but enjoyable...then again, so am I.

For ordering info, write: Match Maker Music, PO Box 1247, Hilo HI 96721-1247.

--Stephen Wagers

"TESTIMONY OF STAGE" - DECISION D

Wow! Christian thrash from Holland! These Dutch thrashers open this live recording with **Testimony Of Faith**, which is the closest thing you could probably get to a thrash praise and worship song. **One Step Closer** and **Requiem** are a couple of mosh-ables that should be quite tantalizing to any thrasher's taste buds (or eardrums).

The closest way to describe Decision D's sound is: What if Pushead and Septic Death found salvation and wrote praise songs? The last cut on this effort, **Holy Supper**, devastates! To me, this is one of those tapes that makes you want to bounce off the walls. "Testimony Of Stage" is a very intense effort from Decision D. As a thrasher, I'm very pleased with these brothers from Holland.

For ordering info, write: PO Box 762, 3500 AT UTRECHT, The Netherlands.

--Stephen Wagers

"CHRISTIAN CORE" - ABHOR EVIL

If early Metallica or Mercyful Fate with Christian lyrics sounds like a winner with you, than Abhor Evil should be at home with you. This Kansas-based outfit really should do well in the Christian Thrash market. The production on this is well done. I would like to see these guys get more press, as well as tour more. Keep on moshing boys!

To order, send \$8.50 to: Jarrod Roark, 6805 Antioch, Overland Park KS 66204.

--Stephen Wagers

"SOCIAL DISEASE" - FRENZY!

Does anyone believe that New Zealand is missing out on the thrash monger movement? Well, thrashing around in the underground metal scene down there is a band called Frenzy. Yep, that's right. With a title like "Social Disease," and artwork showing Earth with a sick man's face on it exploding all over pro-abortionists, and gay-rights protesters, what type of music do you think this is? One guess now. Let's just say a Frenzy is created. Actually the band has some decent guitar leads amongst their frenzy and obviously is trying to break out of the underground mold, but a little more work needs to happen, starting with production quality perhaps. Keep on getting tighter with those Ibanez guitars mates, and maybe the Frenzy will be unleashed.

For ordering info, write: 25 Ngaroma Rd, Greenwoods Corner, Auckland 1003, New Zealand.

--Steven White

"COWS EATING IN THE RAIN" - GREG SHULTZ

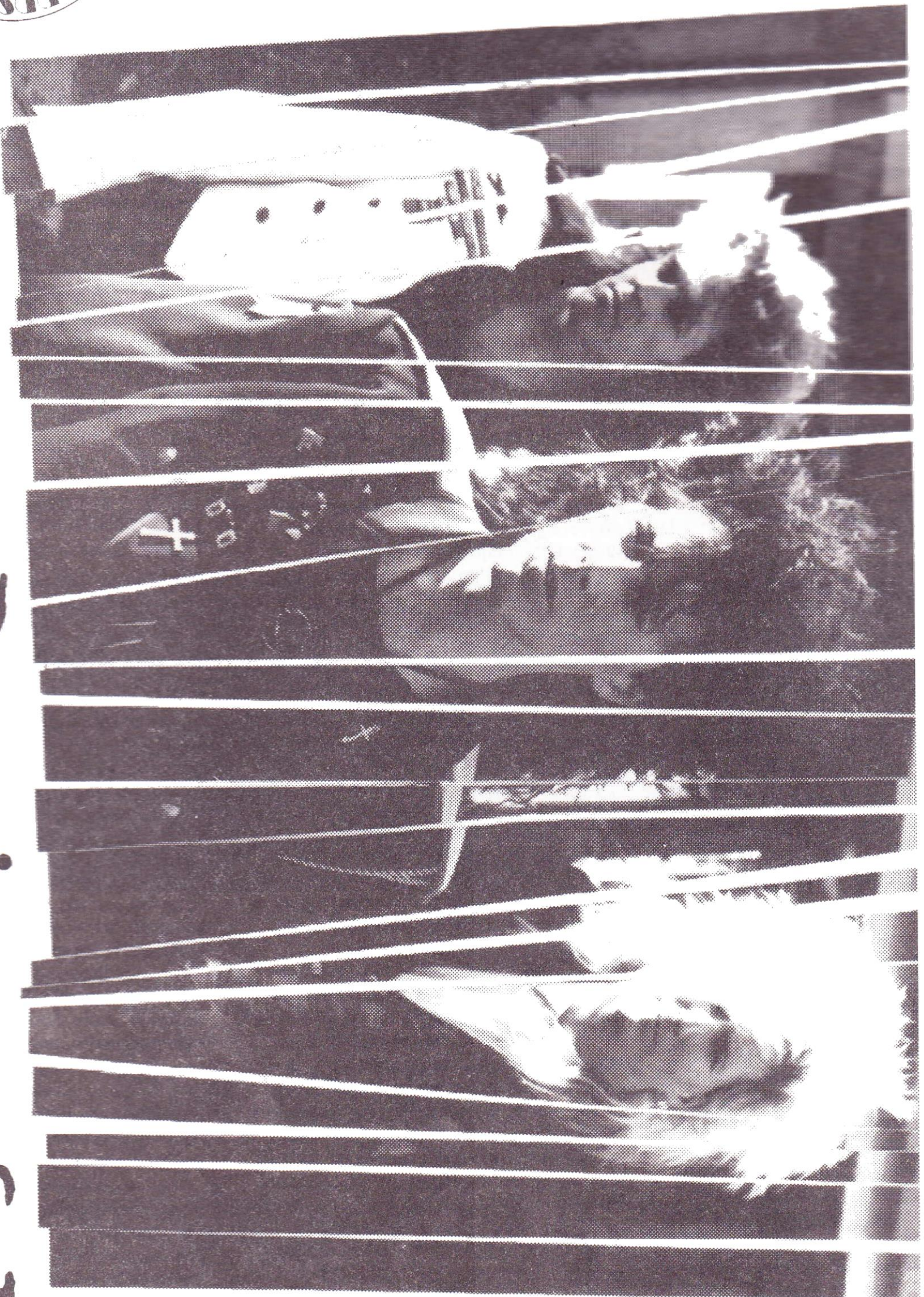
The keyboardist for Driver, Greg Shultz, (ex-Joshua) has recorded a compact disc release of contemplative, New Age music with his keyboards and samples. This stuff, though leaps and bounds away from melodic metal, shows the talent that Greg is made of. For relaxation, check out this disc. It's an all-digital project.

To order, send \$13 (CD) or \$9 (k) to: Cow Lick Records, 14147 Red Hill Ave, Suite 102, Tustin CA 92680.

--Doug Van Pelt

HM

Pakaderm wants to BRIGHTON your day...



Available on PAKADERM Records thru WORD Distribution

Promise of Love

BRIGHTON

Undercover

Monte Clair High School, California
March 2, 1991

As equipment shifted, so did the audience. Candles flickered from stage as incense overcame the musty crowd aroma. An unusual peace reigned amid the rattle of moshers, slammers, and headbangers, pushing forward for perfect positioning.

Undercover entered graciously. Vacant of warning, they slammed out their first dose. Like the ripping off of a band-aid, they left everyone screamin'. Then, without hesitation, Undercover fired off high doses of rock; immediately administering the antidote for what ailed this crowd. They needed rock and roll, and they got it. After three numbers they paused...just checking to see how everyone felt...and to rally up those who were left behind. The rousing crowd was obviously pleased they had submitted themselves for treatment.

Undercover is not an "Act!" Not a "Show!" And they certainly are not "Playing!" Act, Show, and Play fail as appropriate terms when describing an encounter with Undercover. When they take the stage--THEY TAKE IT! And they don't give it back till they're finished.

Undercover is stark, naked, unashamed, and unembarrassed of their transparency. They are face to face rock and roll. They see their audience as a group of individuals--one at a time--and you're aware that each person counts. As Ojo Taylor takes time to clearly state, "God bless each and every one of you tonight."

Most concert reviews would inspect, dissect, analyze, and/or criticize the performance at this point. But I prefer not to judge God's work. I measure most bands by two simple rules: Did you strike them speechless; and/or did you leave them screamin'!? Undercover did both.

Undercover displayed some excellent new material and resurrected some old favorites. Their material has always consisted of sobering jolts of power surges. And they still rock above normal energy levels, channeled and controlled.

Giving a new meaning to group participation, they lifted a dozen or so howlers onto stage to help in the vocalizing of the ever-pounding theme of Undercover, "God Rules." As they began, spouts of spontaneous "OOOOoooo's" drown out the intro! Then in the pause to regroup, I think to myself, "I remember hearing 'God Rules' years ago." So, as I anticipate my normal reaction when a band plays old material, polite attention and anxious for the new stuff. They attack it again, with shocking results. Without even analyzing my reaction, I'm yanked to my feet. Arms are flying up everywhere with simultaneous howls of fresh praises..."OOOOOOOOooooooo!!!!" And I'm reminded--He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

This band always has been and still is a must "encounter." New every morning,

CONCERTS

fresher than ever. If you haven't seen Undercover this week, you haven't seen Undercover!

P.S. If you have been slipping back into secular noise, which in my opinion is nothing more than gargles of demonic mucus, clogging the hearing receptacles of could be saints, might I prescribe a provoking amount of Undercover. Oh! I know you have ways to justify choosing secular rock, but remember this Rock gave up life to justify choosing you!

--Sharon David Shubin

Believer

The Believer, Red Ink, and Lust Control show at Liberty Lunch on February 21st was very well received considering the wet and slimy weather. Omigosh! Just when you thought it was safe to go to Christian thrash concerts, Lust Control reared its hooded faces. Back for another tour of duty, LC opened up the bill with Gene fronting a brand-new, revamped, menacing line-up. The new masked marauders in the fold are: Bradford, Matt, and the lovely Butch. (By the way, in case you're wondering, former "LCers" Stanley just successfully completed defending his Marshmellow-eating world title, and Duane and George nurture a pet rock farm in Missouri.) This gruesome foursome launched into their 10-minute set with "Planned Parenthood" and "Mad At The Girls," and ended the set with "Return To Vomit" and the newly Gene/Butch penned "Victim Of Revolution."

Next up was Holy Houstonian moshers Red Ink. Chaz, Oatmeal and co. ripped into their set with instant classics "Red Ink" and "Baby Killer." My hat goes off to Mr. Chaz for his on-fire stage presence! The crowd was over-all very receptive of the Red Inksters. The mosh pit was definitely happening when these guys were playing. As a concert-goer, I was blown away by their raw (meat-ha, ha) approach.

Believer came on next, opening their set with "Unite" from "Extraction From Mortality." This being the first time I had ever seen Believer, I will say that fans of Kreator and Voivod would enjoy Believer's techno-thrash style. Believer put on a very tight set. The band played a few cuts off of their brand new "Sanity Obscure" album. Joey Daub displayed his awesome drumming dexterity throughout the evening. All the bands did a tremendous job performing, as well as ministering after the show. The Lord's presence was definitely felt at this show. Praise God for giving us killer music!

--Stephen Wagers

King's X

As many of you may have heard, King's X opened up for AC-DC on its American and European tours. I was privileged enough to catch King's X set in the

band's hometown Houston. The crowd looked like the typical AC-DC crowd, judging by the T-shirts in attendance, yet King's X had the crowd on its feet and into the music. Backed by several large video screens, those not in the front section of Houston's huge Summit Arena could watch the band in action. Taking control of the huge stage seemed no problem for the trio, which played a pretty tight set of tunes from all three albums. While taking a little while to get on track with the opening song, King, the band played and sounded great in every song but the single It's Love, where the guys couldn't seem to settle into a groove with its vocal harmonies. No one seemed to mind though, and the band had the place shaking big-time with its last three songs: Moanjam, where Doug Pinnick's vocals just wailed; Over My Head, which is always a crowd pleaser; and the super heavy Visions, which equals Moanjam in its intensity.

Because the band was a supporting act, the sound system wasn't as favorable as past performance I've seen, but the excitement of seeing the band up on that huge stage made up for the small amount of quality missing. Oh yeah, AC-DC... Well, I didn't stick around for any of its set.

By the way, I also saw the King's X/Living Colour show, which saw a more relaxed Pinnick/Tabor/Gaskill tear it up. The show was at a medium-sized rock club in San Antonio, and the set was at about 15 minutes longer. I have to say that Living Colour's music was quite impressive too. Now if we could just convert these guys...

--Doug Van Pelt

Darrell Mansfield

Tallahassee, Florida

On Friday, February 22nd, I went to see Darrell Mansfield with guitarist Eric Turner. They were playing at a club called "The Warehouse," a secular club that usually spotlights Metal and Punk bands, and known for its sinful atmosphere.

This was not the case Friday night. When a couple of buddies of mine and I walked in, it was like another world. There were people drinking and smoking. We sat in a corner and began praying that the music of Darrell and Eric would change some people's lives that night. A few minutes later, a whole bunch of Christians walked in. We knew several of the people in that group.

As Darrell and Eric took the stage, they had a few technical difficulties. But praise God, those were overcome and they began jamming out some hard Blues, which immediately got the whole crowd into the music. Song after song, the Christians were praising God and singing along. Darrell was giving Jesus the glory through testimonies and scriptures. You could tell that the non-Christians were being touched through it all.

I could feel the presence of God even in the dark club of The Warehouse. God is everywhere. Now I fully understand the scripture in which Jesus told the (religious)

The Frontline Family Sharing The Celebration



Readers' Poll Winners '91

You make us proud!

Thank-you for being dedicated to making a difference.

INTENSE
Records

FRONTLINE
F m G
MUSIC GROUP

ALARMA
RECORDS

leaders that He came to save the sinners, not the Christians. He dwelt with the sinners. Anyone who says that this type of ministry is not of God needs to go see Darrell Mansfield live! If you haven't seen 'em yet, go do it. It'll change your life. Praise God!

--Travis McLane

Galactic Cowboys

The hottest new band on the planet played a showcase in Austin's Steamboat as part of the South By Southwest (SXSW) Convention last March. Obviously more than well rehearsed, the Cowboys came on stage and started **We Are Not Amused**, which begins with a really cool Spanish guitar intro and then flies into some HUGE crunchin' rhythms that would make Metallica sign up for lessons. Ben Huggins' harmonica playing, as well as every single aspect of the band (vocal harmonies, guitar leads, bass lines, drums) was extremely tight and timed perfectly. The band was so good that I couldn't wipe the grin off my face for days.

Tunes off the debut album, like **Pump Up The Space Suits** were ragin', and make me anticipate its release in July.

--Doug Van Pelt

Lust Control

The date May 3rd 1991 was a landmark day for Austin Christian music. One, it was the first full-length Austin performance of Lust Control; and secondly, it was the first time I got to see one of my favorite performers--Paul Q-Pek (of One Bad Pig fame)--do an acoustic set that I have been longing to see. Doing acoustic versions of **Red River**, **Kingdom Come**, and **Wrestle For You** in good ole Q-Pek fashion. I felt blessed from Paul's performance.

Former Stryken vocalist Stephen Hopkins (Stricker) did an excellent solo acoustic set as well. New Industrial dance band on the scene donderfliegen, (managed by none other than Paul Q-Pek) hit the stage with their chaotic Industrial synth pop sound. Watch out for their tape soon.

Next the Texas All-Stars hit the stage covering songs like **King**, **We Are Finding...** and **Summerland** (King's X), **See No Evil** (Holy Soldier), and **Time And Time Again** (Guardian). Fronting the Texas All-Star fold was former Stryken drummer Joey Knight, who dazzled the audience with his vocal dexterity. On bass was Mr. Paul Q-Pek and on skins Phillip Owens, who are both from One Bad Pig. The All-Star axeman was Carl Crouther, who did an excellent job at slinging the six-string machine.

Oh gosh, not again! Next up, the incomparable Lust Control. Gene, Bradford, Matt, and Butch hit the stage opening with **Grace** and treating the audience to Lust Control faves like **Madolyn Murry O'Hair**, and **Mad At The Girls**. Later on in the set, we were treated to a new song by the name of **Victim Of Revolution**. Overall, the show was a fun time to be had by all.

--Stephen Wagers

METAL RADIO CHART

Here are the TOP 20 METAL SINGLES (reprinted courtesy The CCM Update) as of May 6th:

- 1 23 Deliverance
- 2 Stop The Madness Believer
- 3 Give Me Love Novella
- 4 Wear It Out Crystavox
- 5 Same Ol' Sinner Bride
- 6 Power Of Love Guardian
- 7 Point Of No Return Detritus
- 8 Below The Grave Haven
- 9 My God Audio Adrenaline
- 10 Tormented Forever Seventh Angel
- 11 Rumors Ransom
- 12 Ark Of Suffering Tourniquet
- 13 Break This Jail Jet Circus
- 14 We Want You One Bad Pig
- 15 Devastating Daydream Seraiah
- 16 Walkin' In Faith Angelica
- 17 Victory Dance Jet Circus
- 18 Neo-Neo Jeff Scheetz
- 19 Everybody Knows My Name Bride
- 20 Look Me In The Eye Fighter

ROCK/METAL SALES CHART

Here is the new sales chart compiled from five different reporters: Family Christian Bookstores (which represents 128 stores); Ministries For Christ in Austin, Texas; The Inner Court in San Antonio, Texas; Long's Christian Music (and mail-order) in Orlando, Florida; and Big Rage (mail-order) in Chicago, Illinois. It includes the sales of rock and metal for the months of February and March.

- 1 "Powerhouse" Whiteheart
- 2 "Beyond Belief" Petra
- 3 "Petra Praise" Petra
- 4 "The Torment" Seventh Angel
- 5 "Petra Means Rock" Petra
- 6 "This Means War" Petra
- 7 "Sanity Obscure" Believer

- 8 "Crank It Up" Mylon & Broken Heart
- 9 "Step On It" Jet Circus
- 10 "Immigrant's Daughter" Margaret Becker
- 11 "On Fire" Petra
- 12 "Fire And Love" Guardian
- 13 "Walkin' In Faith" Angelica
- 14 "Simple House" Margaret Becker
- 15 "Weapons Of Our Warfare" Deliverance
- 16 "Crystavox" Crystavox
- 17 "The River" Allies
- 18 "Faith Hope Love" King's X
- 19 "Circle Slide" The Choir
- 20 "Ultimate Metal II" Various
- 21 "Holy Soldier" Holy Soldier
- 22 "Wicked Generation" Sacred Warrior
- 23 "Your Dying Day" Haven
- 24 "The Secret Of Time" Charlie Peacock
- 25 "Triumphant Return" Whitecross

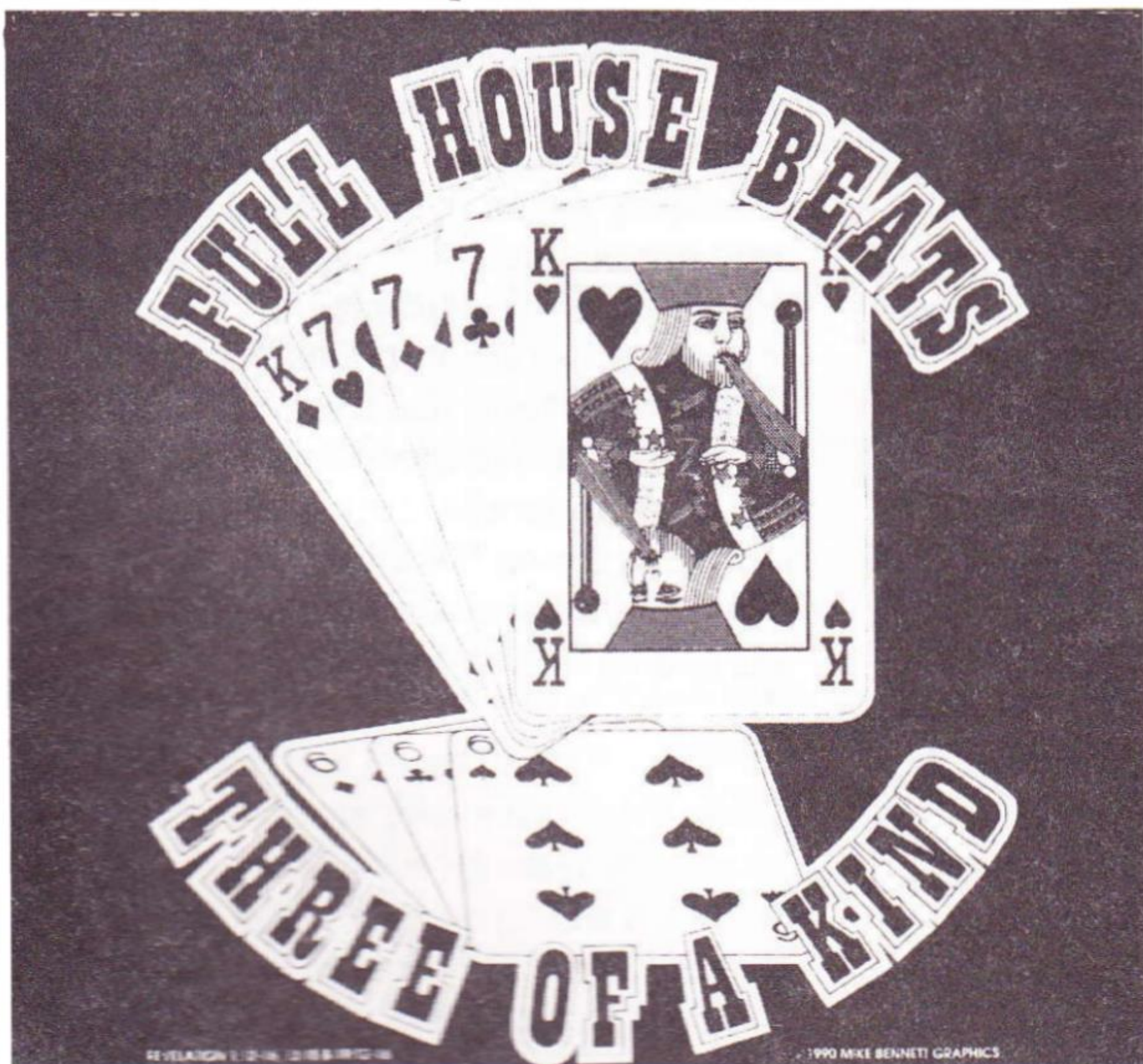
THE "HOT 15"

What's movin' and shakin' in Christian Metal sales (compiled from three individual retailers who sell lots of metal) in February and March.

- 1 "Sanity Obscure" Believer
- 2 "Faith Hope Love" King's X
- 3 "Wicked Generation" Sacred Warrior
- 4 "Your Dying Day" Haven
- 5 "The Torment" Seventh Angel
- 6 "Stop The Bleeding" Tourniquet
- 7 "Step On It" Jet Circus
- 8 "Crystavox" Crystavox
- 9 "Woodpecker Stomp" Jeff Scheetz
- 10 "Sylentiger" Trytan
- 11 "In Scarlet Storm" David Zaffiro
- 12 "Testimony Of Apocalypse" Sacrament
- 13 "Perpetual Defiance" Detritus
- 14 "Hammer And Nail" Whitecross
- 15 "An Axe To Grind" Ken Tamplin

It has been my goal to create original, thought provoking designs for my shirts that will stimulate questions and conversations. Designs unable to be immediately prejudged and labeled as "Christian". The abundant testimony and popularity of these shirts have confirmed the success of this goal. As a result, people have told me about the opportunities they have had to witness when people have asked them what their shirt means, they then have an opportunity to use their tee shirt as a bible study on the gospel and Christ's second coming!

Many people have asked me to explain my "full house beats three of a kind" tee-shirt. This illustration will do that! Jesus Christ is the *true* King of hearts, But in my illustration, Jesus is drawn as Described in the book of Revelation chapter 1 verses 12-16 and chapter 19 Verses 12-16.

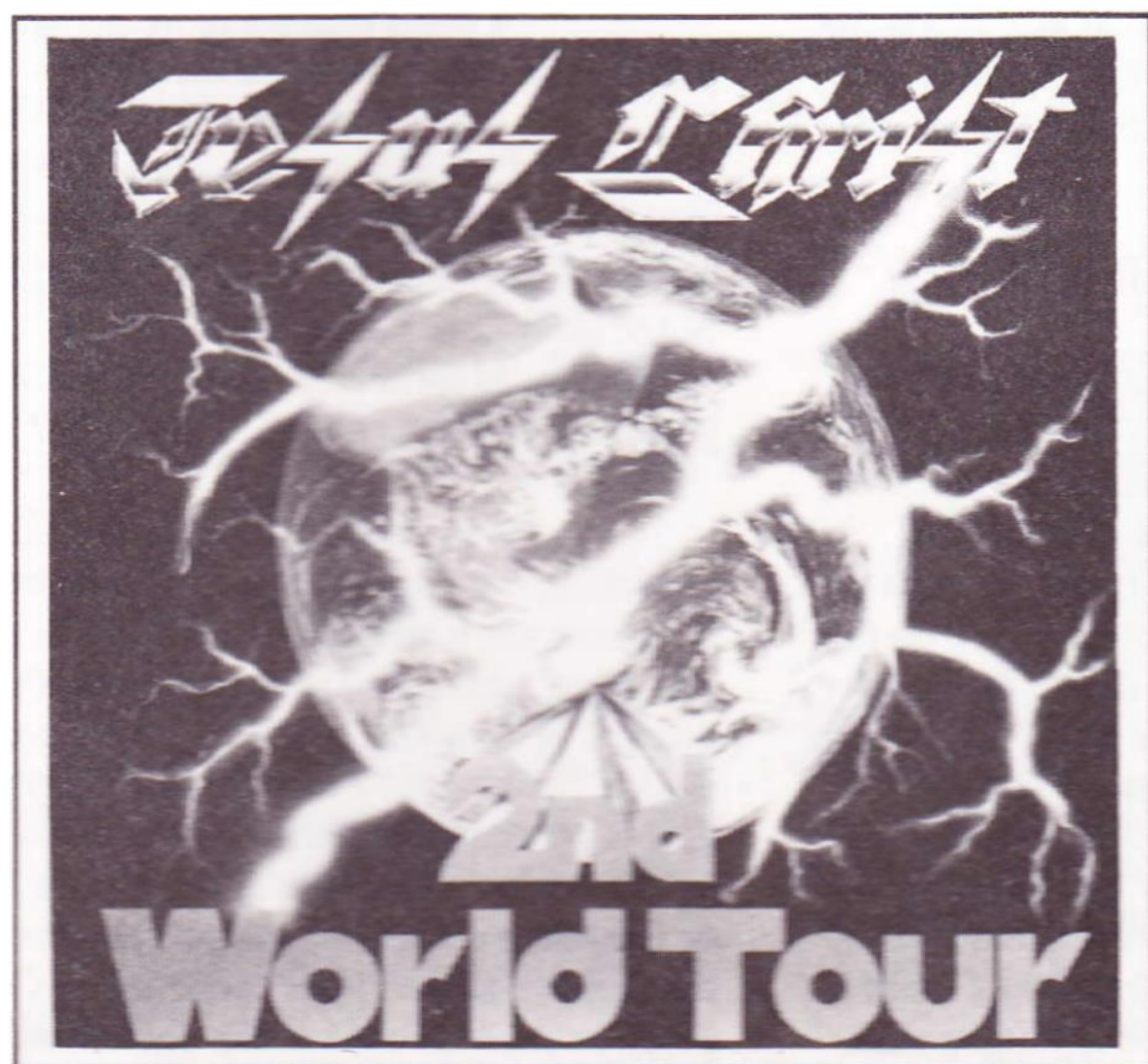


Rev. 1:12-16 "I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lamp stands, and among the lampstands was someone "like a son of man," dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. "

Rev. 19:12-16 "His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one but he himself knows. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron scepter. He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. "

Rev. 13:18 "This calls for wisdom. If anyone has insight, let him calculate the number of the beast, for it is a mans number. His number is 666. "

The number "777" biblically represents completeness, and the number "666" is the number of the beast in Revelation. 666 is incompleteness, man straining to be God! God defeated Satan, *full house beats three of a kind!*



JESUS CHRIST SECOND WORLD TOUR

Matthew chapter 24 verse 27 - "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the son of man be."



New for 1991

I'D RATHER DIE... THAN TAKE THE MARK

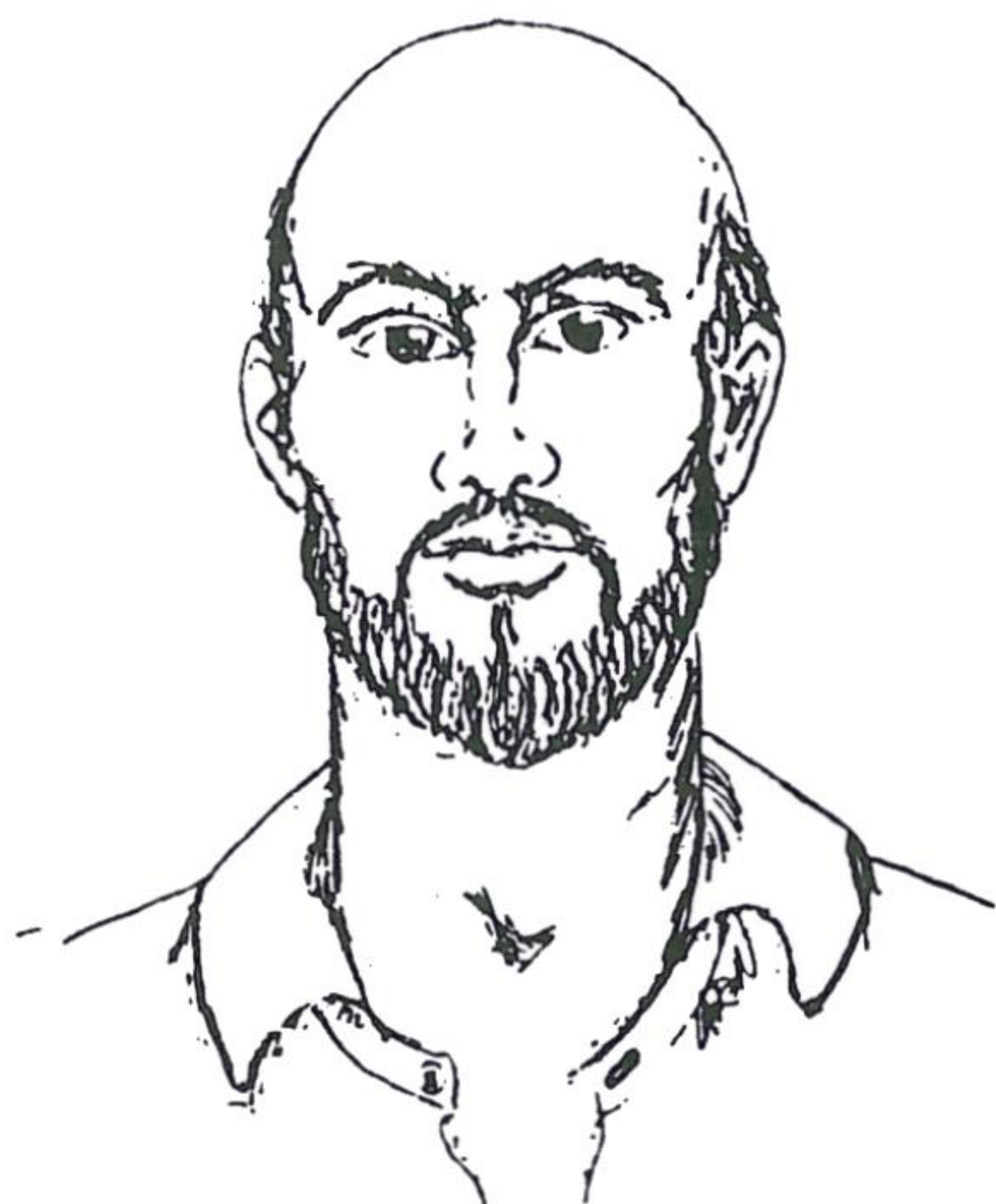
Revelation chapter 20 verse 4 - "I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years. "

All of these tee shirts are available for \$12 each (United States funds *only*), plus \$2.00 for first shirt and \$1.00 for *each* additional shirt (please double this amount for orders outside of the United States), to cover the postage and handling. Mail to: Mike Bennett Graphics, Dept. HM3, 20 Cornwall Drive, Windsor Locks CT. U.S.A. 06096. Please specify the name of the shirt and the sizes (medium, large or extra large) and how many you would like.

MIKE BENNETT
GRAPHICS

All shirt designs are in *color* ©1991 MIKE BENNETT GRAPHICS

WANTED:



FOR PREACHING GRACE DUDLEY HALL

Here is the conclusion of the three-part interview with Dudley Hall.

****I know that in your position as a minister with some public notoriety, you probably at different times run into people who you might be able to describe as a "very draining person" or someone who wants to be seen with you or somebody who is not very easy to love. How have you learned to love people like that? How has the Lord taught you to reach out to people like that or accept people like that?**

"Well, I am sure there are times when, in my insensitivity, I shy away from people that are not easy to love; and that's not good. That's part of the journey that I am still learning, but I think I've had enough insecurities myself to know how people feel--how they feel isolated and rejected. All of us have had that experience, but I have had some myself. I came along when my parents were too old to have kids and I was a surprise for the family. My mom and dad were 43 when I was born, so I felt rejected because I wasn't planned. I was born big, and I weighed 10 pounds when I got here and kept growing. I was the biggest kid in school. I had big ears, and the whole thing--you know how the devil puts rejection on you. I know how people feel, so most of the time when I see somebody who is draining because they need attention I can feel for them. I know they don't need sympathy, so I hurt with them. I hurt for 'em. It's not a problem for me to spend time with 'em and encourage 'em. One of the greatest things Christians can do for each other is to encourage. There is no use in saying anything, unless you encourage.

"What I have come to realize is it doesn't take as much as I once thought. I used to be afraid to get involved with people who had these great needs like this, because I thought it was going to take too much time. I have found sometimes that a word, a glance, a smile is really all they need. Then there are other times it takes hours. You can't put it into

a pattern.

"Getting back to that 'sitting down inside' deal... When you really give your agenda to Jesus, He is so much better at working it out than we are. I may walk into a group and see all these hurting, draining, not-easy-to-love people and think, 'Oh my, Lord, I'll never get out of here.' But if I really just calm down and be sensitive and smile at those that I need to smile at, and talk to those I need to talk to, God works the agenda and gives me plenty of time. Every time I don't do that, every time I try to start to handle my own agenda and protect myself--even if I wind up with time--it's been miserable. I just discovered it's more than theory: Jesus really does lead you. I think being lovingly honest with people helps. There have been times when I have said to people, 'You don't need to talk to me. All it's doing is fuelling your addiction. If you really want my advice, here's what you need to do...' And I will tell them, 'You need to go get with another group, or get alone, or quit believing a lie.'

"I think that's a good question. One of the great challenges of the Christian life is loving one another. It's not hard to teach lessons or to preach sermons. It's not hard to build buildings and start ministries. The greatest challenge in a Christian's life is loving one another on a daily basis. It also holds the greatest treasure. Building a building is shallow next to seeing a life change because you loved somebody."

****Building a spiritual building.**

"In Psalms it says, 'My delight are the saints of the earth,' and that's such a good choice to make, because when you choose to make your delight the saints in the earth, you're fixing to find a lot of treasure you didn't know was there. The greatest treasure on this earth are people. I have no desire looking for gold mines and diamonds or gold and silver or whatever. The greatest treasure God ever made are people. Getting to know people is a great privilege. So, one way that helps me to love unlovely people is I have tried to see everybody as a possible gold mine. If I talk to you, I'm going to find out something special, and then I'm going to be blessed. Even if all I find out is your needs, I will have learned something about life that I didn't know before I talked to you. It keeps you with your antennas up. I hate it when I get so tired and worn out that I see people as things. That's when I know it's time for me to go get refreshed.

"I don't think people need to feel guilty when their gas tank runs out. I don't feel guilty when my gas tank runs out on my car, I just go fill it up. And when my emotional tank runs dry or my spiritual tank runs dry I don't feel guilty anymore. I don't feel like I have to keep on going, and beat myself up because I don't feel sensitive. I just go off and get with God or go hunting or fishing or whatever it takes to refresh me...go read a book or take a nap, whatever...and go get my tank filled up so I can go use it again."

****That's certainly an area that I**

struggle with a lot--just applying that love to others.

"So many a minister have believed a lie about ministering: that we are expected to go 24 hours a day and never run dry. Jesus walked through a crowd one day and a woman touched Him on His garment and He felt something go out of Him. Well, if something went out of Jesus when someone touches Him without Him even knowing it, we can be sure something is going out of us when we are ministering. Jesus had sense enough to go and get refreshed. He spent days in the wilderness. We don't know what He was doing. We always pictured Him on His knees somewhere. I think, and it's speculation obviously, that He was fishing or skipping rocks."

****One time I had this vision of Jesus. I was just riding my bike to school and I envisioned Jesus on my handlebars and He was wearing a white robe and it was like He could read my mind. He thought to Himself that, 'I'm not surprising him enough,' so He started kicking up His feet and whooping it up and going 'Whooo-Haaa!' That just gave me the neatest picture of our Lord.**

"I think that's a more accurate picture than what we've pictured."

****Well, you have been speaking volumes to all the body of Christ. I want to give you an opportunity to speak to a particular part of the body: the Christian rockers or musicians. Is there anything on your heart that you'd like to tell this part of the body?**

"I appreciate everybody that is preaching the Gospel, however they are doing it. There are some that are doing it in a way that I can't do it, and there are some that are doing it in ways that wouldn't be my preference even if I could; but I rejoice over everybody that is proclaiming Christ. If I had one word to all the brothers and sisters involved in ministry or Christian rock, it would be: 'Be flexible in the coming days to what the Spirit of God is going to do, because I really believe we're coming into a new era where the Spirit of God is going to be showing us new ways and more spiritual-than-fleshly ways of presenting Jesus.'

"I think those who are inflexible, who are tied into a methodology or to a method of success, or a worldly concept of how the business says you have to do it are going to be left behind. They will not be a part of the move. They will still be doing their gigs, but they are not going to be a part of what God is doing. I'm not smart enough to know how to tell them, and if all of them came to me and said, 'What are you talking about?' I'd say, 'I don't know.' All I know is the Spirit of God is getting ready to present Jesus purely and simply to a hurting and dying world. When He does it, it's going to be without the mixture of all of our complications and all of our worldly concepts. He is going to present Jesus powerfully, and I think He will use a lot of these people to do that, but they are going to



INNOCENT GIRL

I read in the lyrics of the Mastodon album that "Innocent Girl" is dedicated to the memory of Shauna Grant. What I'd like to know is: Who is Shauna Grant, and if anybody in the band knew her?

--Stephen Walters
Bulan, Kentucky

(Ed--Interesting question. John Elefante tells us that this girl was one of many who come out to Hollywood to "make it big." Shauna Grant was this girl's "stage name" in the porno movies she was in. She ended up shooting herself in Palm Springs, California. No one in the band knew her personally, but knew the situation second-hand. The song Innocent Girl was dedicated to her because of the tragedy of this all-too-common scenario. She came from a very devout Christian family. Her dad was a pastor.)

THAT TOONS ME OFF

I'd like to respond to the letter that Chris Johnson wrote concerning the cartoons in Heaven's Metal. His comments were rude, unloving, disrespectful, and selfish. Magazines were never meant to fulfill all the needs of one person. The one cartoon that now appears in each issue only takes up a measly 4 1/2" x 4" space. His letter got me angry, and I must say I have to "bite my tongue" so that I don't get "in the flesh." Please leave the cartoon.

--Mike Reim
Modesto, California

NOT THAT KINDA EDITOR!

Man, Driver broke up? This guy, Rob Rock, must be having some kinda big problems! How come he can't get any bands to work out? Hmph.

In Issue #28 of HM, you said that you could request Two Time Woman on MTV, and then in Issue #29 you reviewed the Not That Kind Of Guy video by Stryper. Which song is it, or did they do both songs on video?

Moshing for Christ.

--Rafael Flippen
Palo Alto, California

(Ed--Well, Rafael, I must admit it: I blew it big time! I inadvertently printed the wrong title to the video review I was doing! What a goof! The video I reviewed is titled Two Time Woman, which the band filmed at the same time they did for the song Lady, which I don't think was ever released. There was never a video made for Not That Kind Of Guy. Big mistake on my part, eh? As per the Driver question, the band is on hold while the individual members work on separate solo projects. Rob Rock and Roy Z. are both back in L.A. Hopefully a Driver record contract will hit sometime soon. There's still a big buzz for them in Europe.)

CONTRARY MARY

Just a short note to say how great your mag is. It's the only metal mag I buy regularly, and find the "sermons" on the back most informative. One qualm, though, in that the review of "The Awful Truth" states that there is a "false worship of Mary." As a Catholic who prays the Rosary, I'd like to point out that we are not worshipping Mary, but we are praying with and through her to Jesus. Her name has no power without her Son's backing, for He is the One Who possesses all power and glory. I hope that clears it up.

--Adam Taylor
Athelstone, South Australia

OUT-LAW

Thanks for putting me in "the big times." I enjoyed your article. I hope it helps some people fall in love and out of law. Keep in touch. I bless you!

In Christ,
--Dudley Hall
Euless, Texas

PATCHES--I'M DEPENDIN' ON YA

I would love to start a denim jacket with Christian Rock patches, but I can't figure out where to find some patches, instead of going to concerts. I was wondering if you knew where I could order some.

--Rick McCloskey
Salem, New Jersey

(Ed--You can get patches from Deliverance, Whitecross, Tourniquet, and Stryper (by writing the bands directly), and Pure Metal Records sells a patch of its new logo. The above bands have merchandise addresses printed on the inside of its albums.)

EGOTISM AND PRIDE

I'd like to further elaborate the Reader's Survey questions about the "Letters To Ed" section. Most of the time I'll read this section. I do feel that a lot of egotism and pride problems are shown here. It's possible that it comes from those who used to bash each other in the "Letters" sections of Circus, Hit Parader, etc.

--William G. Jones
Pompano Beach, Florida

(Ed--I agree in a lot of ways. I think this is a good section to have, but sometimes I wonder about the fruit of a real negative, criticizing letter. For example, if one person gripes about something it becomes contagious and others begin griping and complaining too. It does provide an open forum for needed commentary, so it has its pluses and minuses.)

HM

DUDLEY HALL cont'd:

have to be flexible. They will change.

"Then I would go back and repeat, 'I wish we could get out of our vocabulary this concept of 'my ministry' and the protectiveness of 'what I'm doing' out of the whole deal; and realize, regardless of what the Billboards say or 'Who's on top?' or whatever, that the most important thing is to let Jesus get glory. He is so glorious, let's give Him a chance. We have already tried to draw the world to Jesus, and we haven't done too good. Let's let Jesus draw the world to Himself.' My encouragement would be: 'Whatever it takes in flexibility and change and repentance; as God shows us, let's do it and hold Jesus up and give Him a chance to let the world see how wonderful Jesus is.'"

**Amen. The Lord's saying that to a lot of folks. We are in a time where we are going to have to depend on the Spirit and not on our own past experiences.

"See, Jesus is so beautiful and so attractive; if we can ever believe that and just hold Him up, He will do His own drawing. We have taken on burdens we don't need. We are trying to win the world to Jesus. He has already died for the world. Let's just hold Him up. If we can do that without siphoning off the glory for ourselves and trying to get a name or reputation, the Lord likes that. I think that is the ministry of the future.

"Do you ever come to that artist deal they do over in the Nashville area? This is something that Gaither and some of them do. I've been there for the last four years. They have about 80 guys that all get together in June at a state camp and just spend several days being with each other out of the reach of the public. Much of the groups come. Mylon always brings his group. It's a time where we just talk. I've got to know all of 'em, and have been really blessed by knowing 'em. There's a lot of 'em that really have a heart for God and for doing what's right. That's good to see, because several years ago I heard all kinds of critical things about those involved in contemporary Christian music.

"I really bless those guys out there. I know they don't live a glamorous life. So many kids think they live a glamorous life. To many it's an artificial life. It takes a lot of maturity to be able to do that. I bless all those guys and girls and pray for 'em, because it's not easy."

If you'd like to help the authorities find Dudley Hall, or want to contact him yourself, write: Successful Christian Living Ministries, Box 101, Euless TX 76039. HM

CHARLIE PEACOCK BEFORE "TIME"

Long before recording *The Secret Of Time*, Charlie Peacock chronicled his faith in a "diary" of songs. Cassettes of this musical journal were distributed to a limited number of devoted fans.

Now remastered, repackaged and preserved for the first time on compact disc, the *West Coast Diaries* are available from Sparrow Records.

WEST COAST DIARIES 1,2,3
ON COMPACT DISC AND HIGH QUALITY CASSETTE



© 1991 Sparrow Corporation

PASTOR BOB



I was excited to get on the Sanctuary 800 Lines tonight! The last time I helped in answering the calls, I had the opportunity to lead someone to the Lord and to help another put his marriage back together. I felt a little twinge of expectancy as I answered the first call, "Sanctuary Talk Line, can I help you?" The voice on the other end was definitely not as excited as I was! "I'm not sure you can--This Christian thing doesn't seem to be working for me" was his reply.

He is typical of about half the calls we get. The problem became very clear as I asked him the next question: "Are you involved in a church or Bible study where you live?" He proceeded to give me a long story about how nobody understood him and he didn't feel welcome, and, well, anyway, he didn't like getting up early on Sunday morning! As he spoke, I thought to myself, "I wish I had a nickel for every time I've heard this story!"

The Bible has a good example of a guy who stayed home from church. His name was Thomas--Yes, "Doubting Thomas." We don't call him that because he was a doubter by nature. His problem was just that he had missed some very important meetings with the rest of the disciples that totally changed their lives! Put the magazine down for just a minute, and turn in your Bible to John 20:19-31. Read the story yourself before we continue...

Verse 19 tells us that it was the "first day of the week," and the disciples were assembled together. This would, of course, be the Sabbath evening when God's people had joined together for a meeting. What a good example of what takes place in our churches every Sunday! Verse 24 lets us know that Thomas was not with them on the Sunday night when Jesus came. What did he

miss by not attending the meeting?

First, he missed out on the fellowship with the other believers. By skipping the meeting, he missed out on a great source of strength for his life. Christian fellowship is really important for the spiritual health of any Christian.

Secondly, he missed the Lord's blessing that the others received. In verse 19, Jesus said, "Peace be with you." Fellowship with other believers helps keep the "peace of God" in our hearts! The disciples were glad. Thomas missed the joy shared by the others who were present that night. He is just like many people who call on the 800 Lines--they lose the "joy of the Lord" in their lives after skipping church and fellowship for an extended period of time.

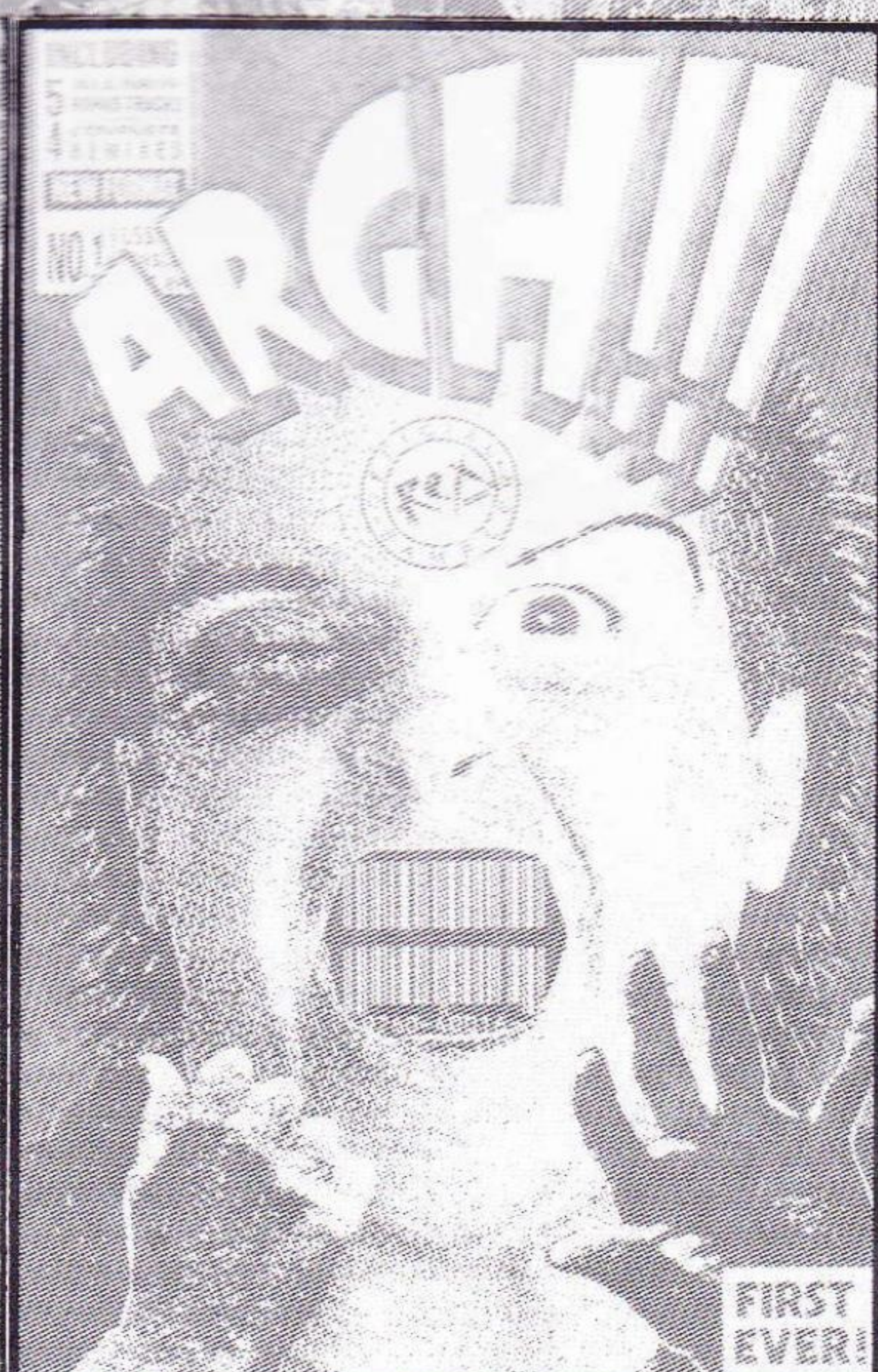
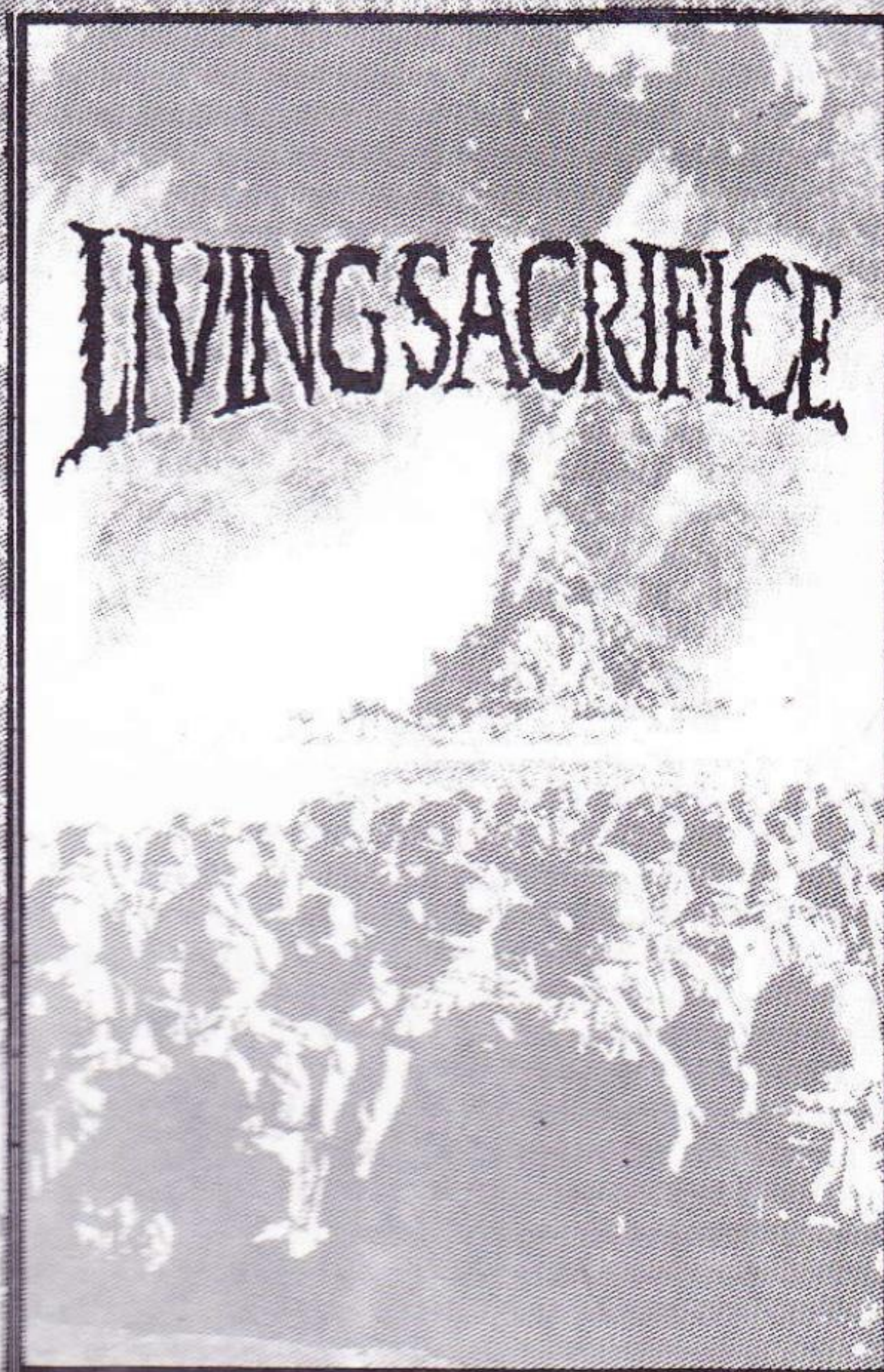
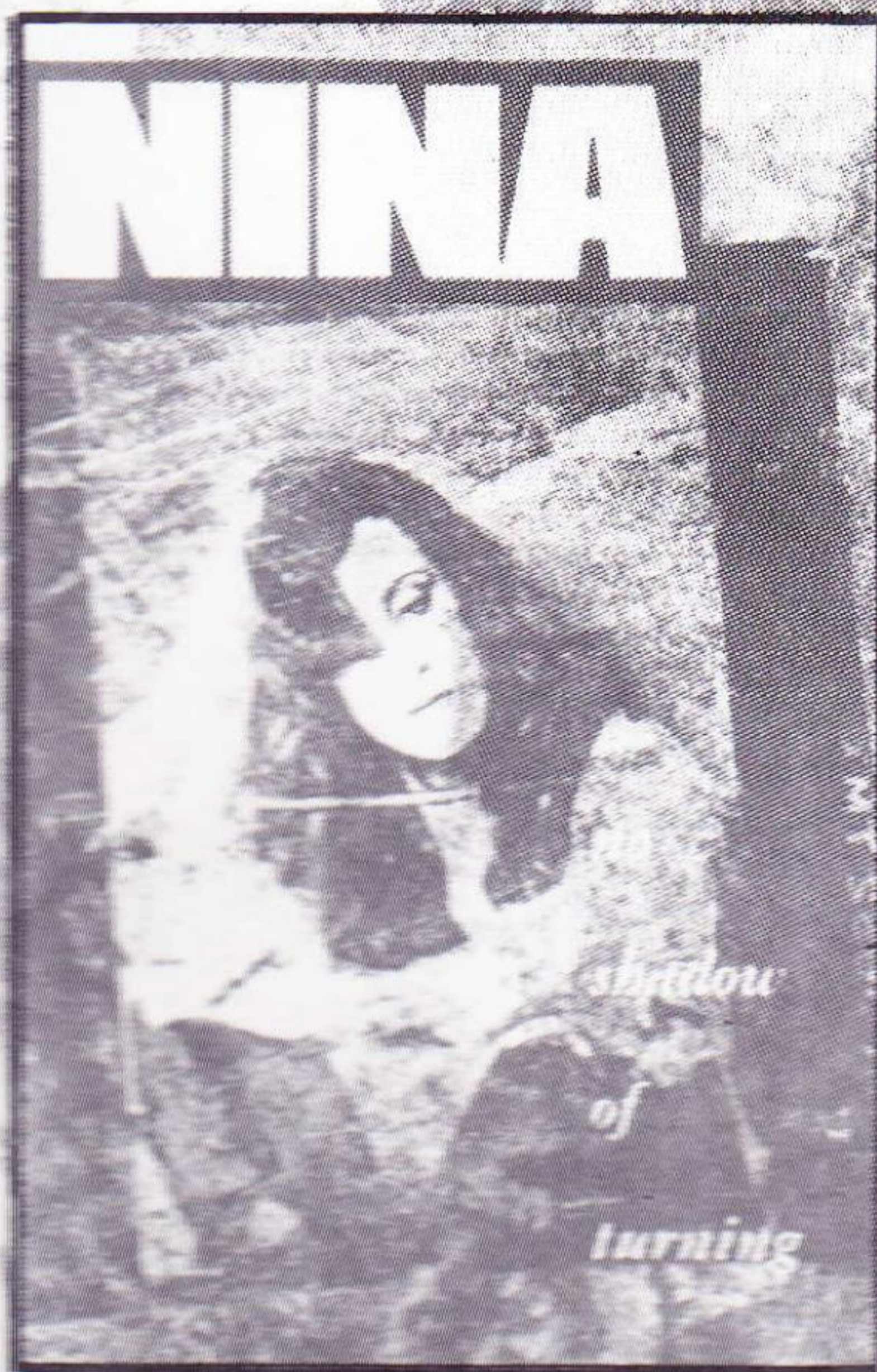
Thomas also missed the Lord's great commission and command to His disciples. Jesus shared with them His plan to send believers out to preach the Gospel so that others would be saved. Thomas missed hearing what God wanted him to do that night by not being present. You see, church is the place where the "man of God" (pastor) brings a message from the Word of God in order that a Christian may know what God wants Him to do!

By missing the meeting, Thomas became a doubter! One of the fastest ways for a Christian's faith to decline is to fall into the habit of skipping church or Bible study. Many of you have a tendency to become a "Lone Ranger" Christian. You think that you can make it on your own, and you don't need anyone else! Did you know that God created you incomplete? You are only complete spiritually as you spend time with the body of Christ. That's the reason that He didn't give us all the spiritual gifts individually. But together, they are all present. When we feel depressed, there is someone with the gift of mercy. When we feel discouraged, there is someone with the gift of encouragement. When we have the questions, there is someone with the gift of teaching. Get the picture?

If Jesus loved the church enough to die for it (Ephesians 5), we ought to love it enough to attend it! You need the church! It will be a blessing in your life and a place where you can grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. Your church also needs you! There is strength in unity and in numbers. Are you playing "Lone Ranger Christian?" It's time to get back to church!

For a complete listing of Pastor Bob's teaching tapes, write to: Sanctuary, PO Box 4130, Redondo Beach CA 90278-8330. HM

radical about our faith more
radical about our music



R.E.X.
MUSIC

R.E.X. MUSIC, INC.
545 EIGHTH AVENUE
SUITE 401
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10018



How many times have we desired to be cool? Especially in the Rock and Roll culture, to be cool is to be accepted. "Being cool" is totally dependent on how others perceive you. You can act as cool as you want, but, if other people don't think you're cool, you're not. Even thrashers, who pride themselves on not being a "poser," deal with this problem.

When you worry about whether people accept you or not, you are fearing man. The Bible says that the "fear of man will prove to be a snare." (Proverbs 29:25) If we worry more about what others think of us than what God thinks, how can we say God is first in our lives? Another problem with trying to be liked by others is that man is fickle. What is "in" today may be "out" tomorrow. Your acceptance by others is generally always temporary.

Concern about being cool is plain old vanity. Clothes, makeup, and hair are all outer adornments, a superficial surface. "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised." (Proverbs 31:30) Your youth and good/cool looks will fade with time. (Job 14:1-2)

God is more concerned with the inside of us than the outside. "Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight." (1 Peter 3:3-4)

The very nature of being cool is uncaring. Just look at the "cool" stereotypes: Clint Eastwood, The Fonz, and Heavy Metal bands. Do you see these stereotypes bending over to help the poor, or weeping over sin?

God is looking for other qualities in a person. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God." (Matthew 5:3-10)

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." (Colossians 3:12) It's clear from reading His word that God doesn't desire "cool" saints. "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." (Psalm 51:17)

God calls us to be holy, not cool. "But just as He Who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy.'" (1 Peter 1:15,16)

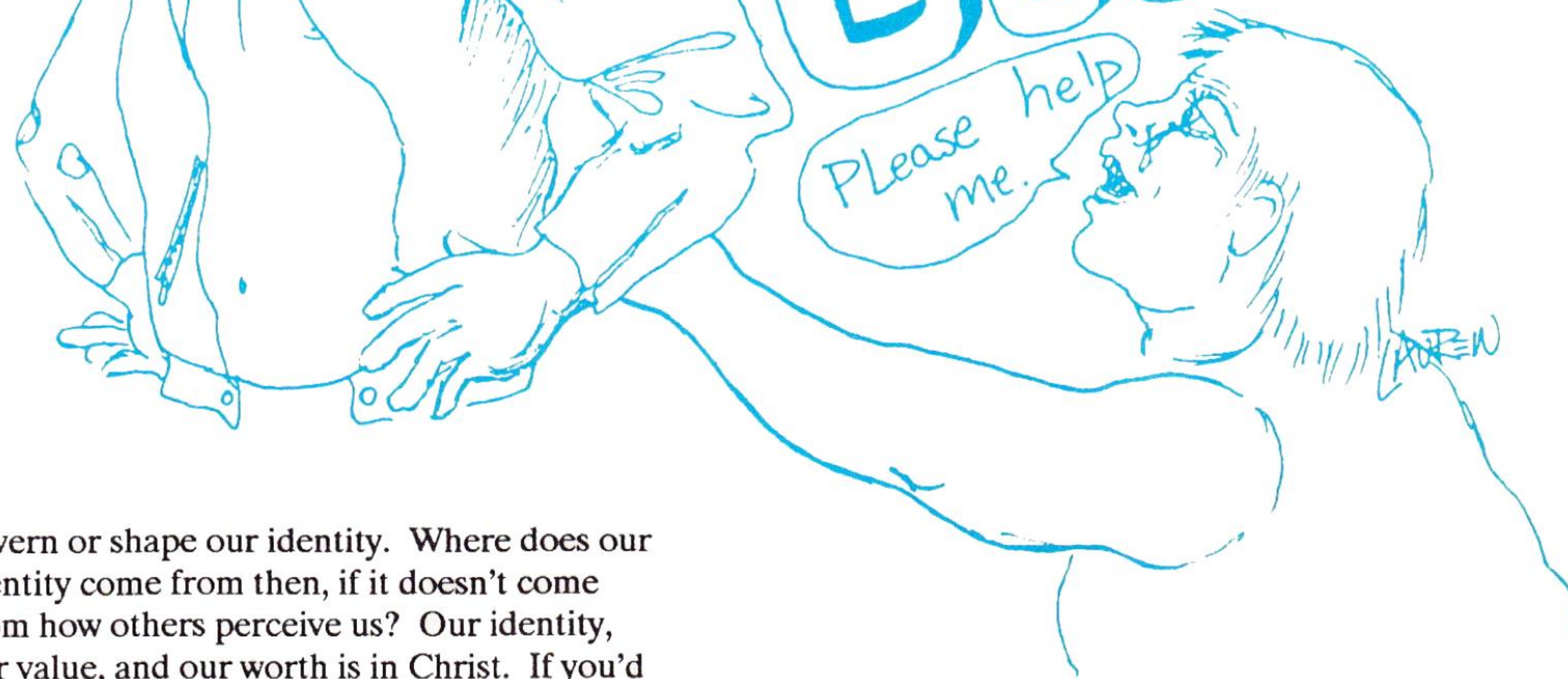
We see that our concern of others' opinion are not the attitudes that should

govern or shape our identity. Where does our identity come from then, if it doesn't come from how others perceive us? Our identity, our value, and our worth is in Christ. If you'd like an even closer look at our identity in Christ, read the first three chapters of Ephesians.

In our quest for coolness, sometimes we leave others out of our lives. "Uncool" people, or "nerds," are part of the body of Christ. Our "coolness" had nothing to do with our salvation, nor does their "uncoolness." Remember, "the body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ." (1 Corinthians 12:12) We need the nerds and they need us. We provide something for them, and they provide something for us. (This speaks across all distinctions too, not just nerds and cool people. The Baptists need the Pentecostals and the Pentecostals need the Baptists) Do not cut yourself off from any part of the body...EVER!!!

If we think we don't need another part of the body, we're essentially telling God He didn't know what He was doing when He created us. "God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as He wanted them to be." (1 Corinthians 12:18) "The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I don't need you!' And the head cannot say to the feet, 'I don't need you!'" On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unrepresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers

Being Cool



with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." (1 Corinthians 12:21-27)

When we set ourselves up as being cool, arrogance can creep in; and we know what God thinks of arrogance. "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." (James 4:6) Sometimes the more conservative members of a church may not show us radically-dressed rockers much love; but not loving them back is a type of "reverse discrimination." Jesus tells us how to respond when we are unjustly treated: "Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also." (Matthew 5:39)

One of the often overlooked downfalls of our pursuit of coolness is the impact it has on others. Whether you realize it or not, you're being watched. Being cool can cause "wannabe's" to strive to be like us. Our example causes others to stumble. Jesus has some un-comforting words to those who do this: "Things that cause people to sin are bound to come, but woe to that person through whom they come. It would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around his neck than for him to cause one of these little ones to sin. So watch yourselves." (Luke 17:1-3)

The conclusion? I'm not saying to necessarily change your outward appearance...but to change your heart. Being concerned with "being cool" is a waste of time. Cool is cold. Being cold-hearted has its judgments. Our value is in Christ, not what others think. Love nerds and non-cool "geeks." They're trophies of grace too. HM